

THE TIMES
1785-1985
Tomorrow

JUMBO
The big crossword
Clues galore in
The Times prize
jumbo crossword

Quiz of the Year
Remember what
happened, where and
to whom in 1985? Try
The Times prize quiz

Weekend sport
Tennis: first day
of the Davis Cup
Football and
rugby preview

Portfolio

There were three winners in yesterday's £2,000 Times Portfolio competition. Mrs Carole Mitchell of Worcester, Mr G H Gilbert of Sevenoaks and Mr Mark Riley of London each receive £666.66. Portfolio list, page 14, how to play, information service back page. Tomorrow £22,000 can be won - £20,000 in the weekly competition and £2,000 in the daily.

Threat to holiday rush abroad

Cross-Channel holiday traffic is threatened by disputes involving French air traffic controllers and ferry crews. A controllers' strike due today has been ruled illegal, but airlines said it was too late to restore cancelled flights. Seamen in Boulogne, Calais and Dunkirk stop work tomorrow.

Ulster bomb

A large bomb exploded last night in the centre of Castlebar, Co Tyrone, 50 yards from the RUC station. Telephone links with the border village were cut by the blast. It was not known whether there had been casualties.

Rates protest

County and district councils, many Tory-controlled, are protesting to ministers over losses they face in next year's rate-support grant. Page 2

Lie test rebel

Mr George Shultz, US Secretary of State, said he would resign rather than submit to the lie detector test proposed by the White House.

Shuttle setback

The launch of the space shuttle Columbia has been postponed until after Christmas because of a technical problem that occurred seconds before blast-off. Page 6

BT challenge

Mercury Communications, which will start competing with British Telecom next summer, says it will undercut Telecom trunk call charges by up to 20 per cent. Page 15

Assam defeat

The Congress (I) Party admitted defeat in the Assam elections and attributed its electoral failure to the misgivings of the minorities living in the state over the Assam accord. Page 7

Security check

The Home Secretary has ordered a security review for 10 Downing Street after the discovery of an intruder on the roof. Page 2

State cash vote

The AEW has voted by a margin of nearly eight to one to accept government money for much ballots. Page 2

Inquiry refused

Sir Keith Joseph has refused an inquiry into teachers' pay and reported that more money would be available only with a conditional offer. Page 22

Clubs cleared

A Football Association disciplinary committee cleared Millwall and Leeds United of any responsibility for the crowd trouble at their match last month. Page 21

Home News	2-5	Leading articles	11
Overseas	5-7	and Letters	23
Arts	12	Motoring	23
Business	14-18	Obituary	12
Court	12	Parliament	12
Crosswords	8, 26	Sale Rooms	12
Diary	10	Science	20-22
Features	8-10	TV & Radio	25
Law Report	12, 14	Theatre, etc	25

Brittan acts to block further City scandals

By William Kay, City Editor

The Government launched its long-awaited attack on scandals in the City of London yesterday when Mr Leon Brittan, Secretary of State for Trade and Industry, published his Financial Services Bill. Mr Brittan said: "The Government's objective is to create a system of regulation which is both flexible and inspires confidence in investors and investors that the financial services sector is a 'clean' place to do business."

He claimed that the Bill represented the most comprehensive overhaul of investor protection for 40 years. It implements a White Paper on financial services published in January.

The Bill's centrepiece will be one designated agency, to be known as the Securities and Investments Board, which will exercise the supervisory powers of the Secretary of State through a series of self-regulating organisations.

But Mr Brittan was quick to answer criticism that this will leave the City to police itself.

He said: "If the self-regulating bodies do not live up to the required standards, their authority to regulate their own members can be withdrawn."

"The alternative of wholly statutory regulation would be more bureaucratic, legalistic and slower to respond."

To reinforce Mr Brittan's decision, Sir Kenneth Berrill, chairman of the board, announced the creation of an ombudsman to make enforceable awards against an investment business that subscribed to the ombudsman scheme, coupled with a plan for compensation of up to £30,000 for claims against a failed investment business.

As expected, the Bill does not include Lloyd's insurance market in its provisions. Mr Brittan explained: "The Lloyd's Act of 1982 is too recent for us to make a definitive assessment of its effectiveness, and even if we had I am not sure that the new Bill is the right framework to deal with it."

"But we are keeping a close eye on Lloyd's and will not

hesitate to take whatever action of a legislative kind is necessary."

The Bill proposes to make it a criminal offence to carry on investment business without authorisation. Any authorised business must obey the rules of its appropriate self-regulating organisations or affiliate directly to the Securities and Investments Board.

Cold calling - the practice of making unsolicited telephone or personal calls - will be prohibited unless the customer explicitly agrees to it in advance, in writing. However, unsolicited mailing shots will not be barred.

Sir Nicholas Goodison, chairman of the Stock Exchange, said: "For the first time all forms of investment, including insurance and commodity-linked investments will in future be subject to regulation."

"We have for many years argued that the standard of regulation of investment business outside the Stock Exchange should be raised. For the first time it seems likely that this will now come about."

The cost of the extra policing of the financial sector will fall almost entirely on investment businesses.

However, Mr John Smith, the shadow trade and industry secretary, said: "The Bill is quite inadequate for the major task of tackling City fraud. There is still too much emphasis on self-regulation, which can so easily become self-protection."

The shadow cabinet tabled an amendment declining to give a second reading to the Bill as it fails to provide a clear and direct statutory framework for City regulations.

Mr David Steel, the Liberal Party leader, commented: "This Bill falls short of what is needed to end the crisis of integrity in the City. Conservative governments are always too indulgent to their chums in the City. The, on the whole, honourable City must not be allowed to become a 'spiv' City."

Digest of Bill, page 5
Leading article, page 11
Kenneth Fleet, page 15
Boards merge, page 15

Younger refuses to rescue Gartcosh

By Philip Webster, Political Reporter

The last hopes for the Gartcosh steel finishing mill in Strathclyde disappeared yesterday when Mr George Younger, the Secretary of State for Scotland, ruled out a reprieve. It is due to close at the end of March with the loss of 700 jobs.

In coming to his decision Mr Younger made clear that he had been persuaded by clear statements by the British Steel Corporation that the future of the neighbouring steelworks of Ravenscraig would not be jeopardised by Gartcosh's closure, a conclusion which the select committees on Scottish affairs appeared likely to contradict before it broke up in confusion nine days ago without issuing a report.

Although the committee was able to reconvene on Wednesday and agree a report, its advice and the evidence it collected came too late to influence the decision.

In a letter to the trade union committee at Ravenscraig yesterday, the Scottish Office said Mr Younger had concluded that the Government would not be justified in changing its view that the decision to close Gartcosh was one for the commercial judgement of the corporation; that the issues



Mr Younger: Assurance over Ravenscraig

raised by the proposed closure were commercial, technical and managerial rather than strategic, and that such issues were properly for decision by the corporation and not the Government.

The letter caused a predictable storm of protest from the steelworkers and trade unions, who had hoped that the pressure of their arguments would persuade Mr Younger to take up the cause of saving Gartcosh in Cabinet (Ronald Faux writes). Mrs Helen Liddell, secretary of the Labour Party in Scotland, accused Mr Younger of betraying the people of Scotland and called for the Scottish Secretary's resignation.



Abdel Karim Khalki, a Palestinian, holding a pistol and a grenade in a Nantes court room after taking hostages to free two men on trial

Hostages seized in French court room

From Diana Geddes, Paris

A Palestinian gunman yesterday disarmed five policemen and took hostage the judge, jury, and members of the public in a French court to try to free two French gangster friends.

Carrying a hand grenade and a pistol, Abdel Karim Khalki, who claims to be a member of the Abu Nidal Palestinian terrorist group, burst into the Assizes court in Nantes shortly before 11 am. He seized the presiding judge by the throat, and ordered five policemen on duty to hand over their arms, firing a couple of warning shots in the air.

He then gave arms to the two accused in the dock, Georges Corcos, aged 38, and Patrick Thiolet, aged 24, who were being tried for armed robbery and receipt of stolen goods. Khalki had been released from prison only 20 days earlier, after serving 3½ years of a five-year sentence for armed robbery.

The gunman's demands were not clear. At first they simply demanded an interview with television journalists which was given. They then demanded to see the Prefect of the region and Police Commissioner Robert Broussard, one of France's top anti-terrorist policemen, and threatened to "execute" his hostages "one by one" unless their demand was met.

The three held the court at gun point for more than six hours, before deciding to release a group of 11 law students and two local journalists.

Sixteen hostages, including the presiding judge who was chained to one of the gangsters, two deputy judges, 11 jury members, the deputy prosecutor, and the court clerk were still being held.

As police and firemen cordoned off the court yesterday the Ministry of Justice appealed to radio stations not to reveal that the elite French anti-terrorist squad, the RAID, has been called in.

But the gangsters evidently were expecting a rescue attempt by the police as they announced that they had accomplices waiting outside who would throw grenades into the courtroom "if anything goes wrong".

Khalki, who said he was a Muslim fundamentalist, said he wanted "to strike a blow against France". Earlier Courtiers, who according to one hostage appeared to be the leader, had complained to the judge that "society has never given me anything and I therefore have nothing to do with it," and declared that "prison was finished".

Gorbachov invites US inspection of nuclear test sites

From Michael Binyon, Washington

Mr Mikhail Gorbachov, the Soviet leader, has written to President Reagan offering to allow US inspectors to visit Soviet underground nuclear test sites. Administration sources said yesterday. He also urged the President to resume negotiations with the Russians next month on a ban of all such tests.

His letter came as Pravda publicly made the same call in Moscow.

The Administration welcomed the Soviet offer but insisted the issue was quite separate from the Soviet call for a nuclear test moratorium.

Mr Larry Speakes, the White House spokesman, said President Reagan had long advocated a dialogue with the Soviet Union to establish better verification procedures. He had already issued an unconditional invitation to Soviet experts to visit US sites and measure the yield of nuclear tests. "The US would, of course, welcome Soviet willingness to agree to reciprocal visits."

In this way a basis could be created to develop and institute the kind of measures needed to make effectively verifiable such treaties and the Threshold Test Ban and the Peaceful Nuclear Explosion treaties, he added. These have still to be ratified by the Senate.

But Mr Speakes rejected the renewed Soviet call for a test moratorium, which he said the Russians had been pressing privately and publicly since it was first made in July. US testing was required "to ensure the continuing credibility and effectiveness of our deterrent."

and to ensure the reliability and safety of the US arsenal". He said the US had also learned through experience that moratoria could not be counted on to enhance security. However, a comprehensive test ban was a long-term US objective in the context of deep and verifiable arms cuts and improved verification. The US was now holding discussions with Moscow on this.

Mr Speakes said the Russians had never responded to the invitation to inspect US sites. "We actually gave them the key to the gate out of Nevada and said, come ahead. They never showed."

There were no official confirmation of the raid but it was not denied either. The South African unit had penetrated "deep" into western Angola, and the operation, begun last weekend, was still going on, the sources said.

The raiders captured 260 mortars, seven rocket-propelled grenades and a large quantity of hand-grenades and landmines. Black policeman's plight, page 8

Pretoria troops raid Angola

Johannesburg - A small contingent of South African troops is engaged in a "hot pursuit" raid into Angola, and has killed at least six guerrillas of the South-West Africa People's Organisation (SWAPO), according to informed sources in Pretoria (Michael Hornsby writes).

There was no official confirmation of the raid but it was not denied either. The South African unit had penetrated "deep" into western Angola, and the operation, begun last weekend, was still going on, the sources said.

The raiders captured 260 mortars, seven rocket-propelled grenades and a large quantity of hand-grenades and landmines. Black policeman's plight, page 8

November, against 10 per cent in August.

Reversing an 18-month trend, trade in the Midlands and the North, including Scotland, is showing a greater momentum in the South of England, according to Mr Peter Brimacombe, merchandise and marketing director for House of Fraser, the largest department store group.

Sales were already "comfortably ahead" of last year, but he added: "I do not detect a too free-spending Christmas. People are thinking before they buy."

Like many other stores, Fraser is finding more sales are being made on credit. Retailers expect to invest more in the next 12 months, and shopkeepers are employing more full-time and part-time workers. Wholesalers are also taking on more full-time workers.

European bid fuels Westland battle

By Julian Haviland, Political Editor

The fight over Westland helicopters will sharpen today with publication of detailed proposals for the company's rescue by a European consortium led by GEC and including French, German and Italian manufacturers.

Members of the Government who favour the European consortium, brought together by the efforts of Mr Michael Heseltine, Secretary of State for Defence, were confident last night that it will offer terms more attractive to Westland, its shareholders and workforce than those already accepted by the Westland board from Sikorsky of the United States and Fiat of Italy.

Giving details yesterday of the Sikorsky-Fiat arrangement, which will give those companies a 30 per cent holding in Westland, Sir John Cuckney, the chairman, revealed pre-tax losses of £106.6 million for the year to the end of September.

Sir John described the European counter-offer, as he understood it, as "deficient in commercial appeal". He pointed out how near Westland had been to receivership and how urgent it had been to get a firm rescue agreement in place.

The Prime Minister and other ministers involved recognized that urgency and backed the Sikorsky-Fiat deal in the belief that it was the only one firm enough to guarantee the company's survival.

Mr Heseltine, who has fought a tenacious and sometimes angry battle with his colleagues to keep the European option open, was yesterday allowed for the first time to deploy before the full Cabinet considerations of national defence.

Later he and his chief rival, Mr Leon Brittan, Secretary of State for Trade and Industry, went to the Commons to hear Mrs Margaret Thatcher say the Cabinet had reaffirmed that Westland's future was a matter for its directors and shareholders.

There were Labour shouts of disbelief when Mrs Thatcher, challenged by Mr Neil Kinnock, said that was the position of the whole government.

With Parliament rising today for Christmas, and the Cabinet not due to meet until January 9, the argument between ministers in the two camps stands adjourned.

Whether it resumes will depend on whether today's proposals from the European consortium, of GEC, British Aerospace, Aerospaziale of France, Agusta of Italy, and MBB of West Germany, proves competitive.

Shareholders in Westland, many of whom are small investors, have suffered attributable losses of £96.7 million (our Business News staff writes). Parliament, page 4 Results and rescue package, page 15

Lloyd's interests 'a vipers' nest'

By Anthony Bevins, Political Correspondent

Mr Brian Sedgmore yesterday alleged a series of high-level scandals in and around the Lloyd's insurance market to back his demand for "a clean-out at the top".

He told the Commons that fraud had continued beyond the Lloyd's Act 1982; that there was need for "a rigorous inquiry" into the activities of Sir Peter Green, a former chairman; that Mr Leslie Dew, a former vice-chairman, had had "a number of commissions" paid into a Swiss bank account; and that he had discovered a "vipers' nest" of Lloyd's interests in the Royal Courts of Justice.

Mr Sedgmore also alleged that Mr Abdul Shamji, the head of one of Johnson, Matthew Bankers' biggest debtors, had attempted to buy him off.

Speaking in an all-night Commons debate, just after 3am yesterday, the Labour MP said that his campaign against City fraud had so far attracted 800 supportive letters, of which 100 related to "serious cases".

He gave a warning that there was a great deal of dirt and filth yet to come, and said: "Lloyd's must clean itself up or the Government will have to do the cleaning for it."

But in advance of yesterday's publication of the Financial Services Bill, which excludes Lloyd's from its control provisions, he said that the 1982 Act had failed to have an impact on the problem. He said that it was a simple statement of fact that fraud had continued after the Lloyd's Act in syndicates managed by Peter Cameron-Webb, Alexander Howden, and Brooks and Dooley.

"After the passing of the Lloyd's Act," he said, "a series of fundamental questions hangs over the operations of the former chairman of Lloyd's, Sir Peter Green."

Mr Sedgmore alleged that serious questions were raised by Sir Peter's Imperial and Cayman Islands Offshore Reinsurance company; his role in the "cover-up" of the Peter Cameron-Webb affair; and his examination of the £300,000 Monte Carlo Unimar "slush fund", which he cleared of impropriety. He said that another Unimar report, when published, would show that Unimar involved "big names".

Turning to the former deputy chairman, Mr Sedgmore said that Mr Dew had been employed by Merritt, a Lloyd's management agency, but had been involved in "substantial banking business for Alexander Howden"; another agency. He said that Mr Graham Sloan, director of Howden's banking business, knew the number of the Swiss bank account because he had paid the "commission" into it.

Having wondered how far the power of Lloyd's went, Mr Sedgmore said that he was

Continued on back page, col 1

Man aged 79 gets 'life' for murder

George Watson, aged 79, was jailed for life yesterday at the Central Criminal Court for the murder of Kirsty Bryant, aged seven. He is believed to be the oldest person put on trial this century.

A jury of five women and seven men took just under an hour to reach a unanimous guilty verdict. The court had heard how Watson, a fish bar cleaner, met Kirsty outside a fish-and-chip shop and lured her into his bungalow at Kingston-upon-Thames, sexually assaulted her, then attacked her with a kitchen fork and a breadknife.

Watson, who had pleaded not guilty, had 73 previous convictions, including sexual assaults on children. Court report, page 3

Big stores are heading for a happy Christmas

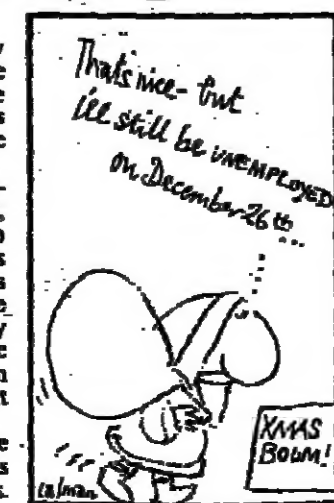
By Derek Harris, Industrial Editor

Christmas retail trade looks likely to be up at least 5 per cent in volume this year, although imports are seizing a bigger share of the market, it emerged yesterday from the Confederation of British Industry and reports from the retail trade.

Some stores are showing bigger increases. Selfridges in Oxford Street, central London, is seeing sales volumes up so far by about a fifth, in spite of unseasonably mild weather curbing sales of clothing and footwear.

At the 21 department stores of the John Lewis Partnership sales, in the first week of December, rose 11 per cent in value. In real terms, taking account of inflation in this sector of goods, the volume increase is probably 6 to 7 per cent.

The Retail Consortium, trade body for the majority of



and talking teddies. Home computers are selling strongly, and hand-made chocolates. Selfridge's big perfume sellers are Coco (Chanel), Poison (Christian Dior) and Giorgio

(from the United States company of that name).

A record Christmas was forecast by the CBI/FT quarterly survey of the distributive trades, published yesterday.

Retailers' expectations, monitored in the survey, suggest a volume growth this month only slightly lower than in August, which was a record month. August sales in volume rose 6.8 per cent on a year earlier. The big multiple chains were expecting the biggest increase in business and the corner shops the least. Mail order companies appear to be doing well.

While British manufacturers are benefiting to some extent from the boost in sales, the CBI is "not too happy" about the apparently growing extent of import penetration. A balance of distributors reporting greater imports rose to 18 per cent in

Purest of the pure.

Glenfiddich Pure Malt Whisky is unique among malts. No other Highland Malt uses a single source of pure natural spring water throughout from distilling to bottling.

Since 1887 the waters of the Robbie Dugh have ensured the consistent purity of taste for which Glenfiddich is justly famous.

Glenfiddich. The pure malt.

Protest barrage from shire counties over rates support

By Colin Hughes, Local Government Correspondent

Ministers yesterday faced a barrage of protest from county and district councils, most of them in the Conservative-voting shire heartlands of the South-east, over next year's rate support settlement.

In the worst-affected county, Bedfordshire, ratepayers are facing a predicted increase of more than 30 per cent in next April's bills. In Hertfordshire the bill will be little short of 30 per cent, and in Surrey, where Conservative leaders had been planning for a low rate rise, the bill could go up by nearly 15 per cent.

On top of that, ratepayers in some areas of the worst-affected counties face even larger bills, because the smaller district councils also suffered losses in the Government's settlement for next year's local government grant.

The losses arise from new methods of calculating need, which have shifted grants away from the shires towards the inner cities and more sparsely populated rural areas. The Government has allowed for the shift by creating a "net" to catch shires which suffer worst, but the effects are still severe in several areas.

They are exacerbated because the new "sloping" schedule of penalty, which shifts grant withheld from high spenders to low spenders, is volatile, and makes it hard for councils to predict exactly how much grant they will receive.

Mr John Lovell, chairman of the Association of County Councils, yesterday wrote to Mr Kenneth Baker, Secretary of State for the Environment, seeking an urgent meeting "in view of the very serious situation facing many non-metropolitan councils as a result of the settlement".

Mr Phillip Hendry, Conservative leader on the hung council of Bedfordshire, said the settlement was "horrible" in its effect. "Our calculations show that Bedfordshire suffers half again as badly as the next worse loser. We are right at the bottom of the pile. After having lost about £11 million in grant last year, this is piling agony on agony."

He added: "I am not prepared to carry the can locally for decisions taken nationally. We have sweated our guts for the past eight years to bring down spending. As a loyal

Minister rejects teachers' pay inquiry

By Lucy Hodges Education Correspondent

Sir Keith Joseph, Secretary of State for Education and Science, reiterated his tough stand on teachers' pay yesterday by rejecting an inquiry and saying teachers would get more money only if they agreed to a conditional offer.

The conciliation service Acas also wrote to Mr David Hart, general secretary of the National Association of Head Teachers, to offer formal exploratory talks. The National Association of Teachers and the National Association of Schoolmasters/Union of Women Teachers agreed yesterday at the prompting of Mr Norman Willis, TUC general secretary, to consider the Acas approach.

Sir Keith's rejection of an inquiry came out of the meeting which ministers had with Mrs Margaret Thatcher on Tuesday about the 10-month dispute. The Government has decided to stand firm.

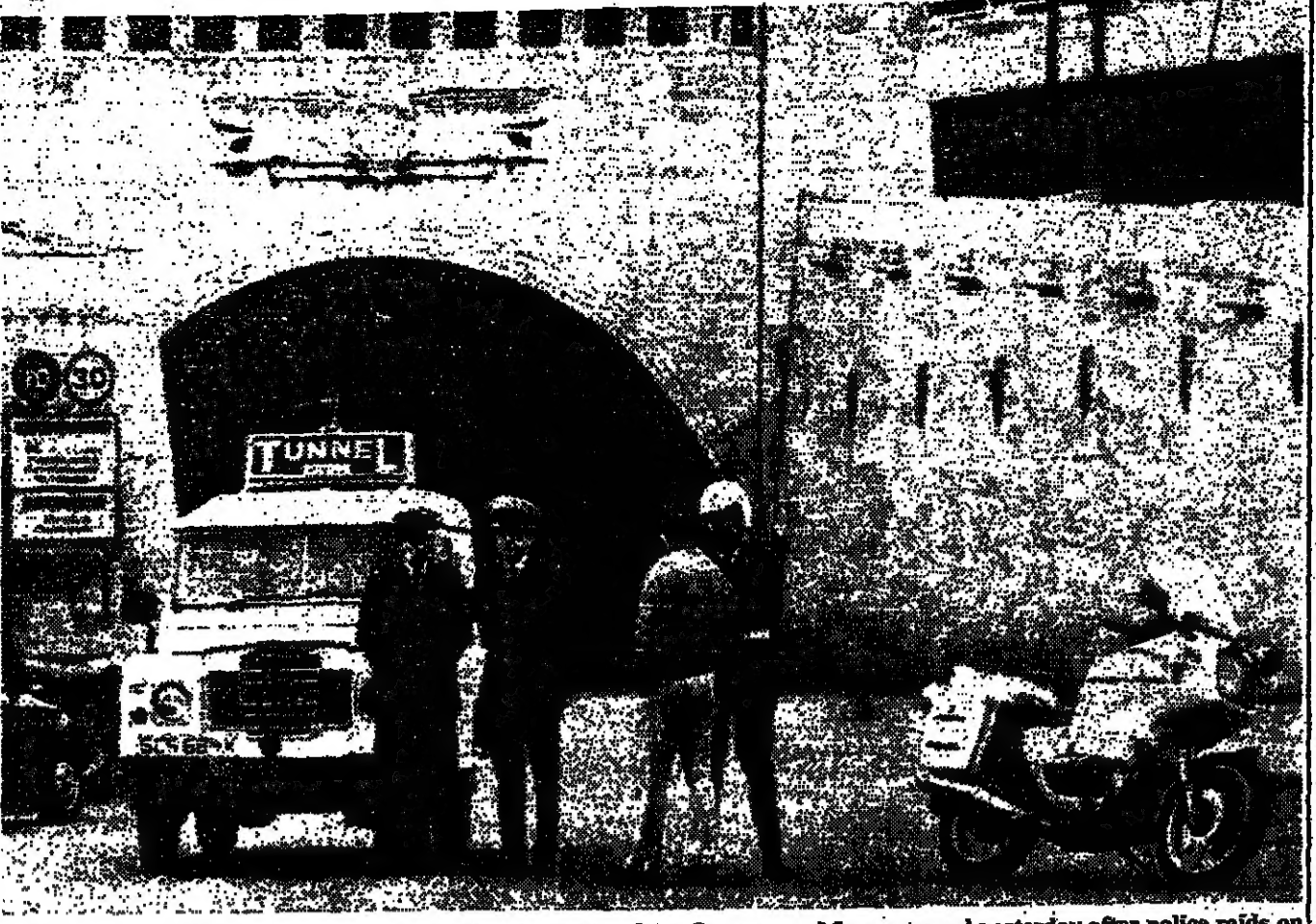
"I do not see that such an initiative (an inquiry) would produce an early resolution to the current dispute in view of the union's insistence, repeated at the talks on Tuesday, on a settlement for 1985 without strings and at a level above which the employers can afford," Sir Keith said.

"The figure which the union leaders hit upon at those talks, 9.9 per cent, suggests to me that they are more interested in striking postures, and showing up the false expectations they have raised, with their members than in negotiating a pay settlement."

It was important that both sides should approach the negotiations with realism, he told Mrs Nicky Harrison, the employers' leader, and that meant any extra money from the Government would come only from the £1.15 billion offer from last August for improved promotion prospects and a clarification of teachers' duties.

"Only through embracing these reforms so necessary if children are to escape the appalling disruption which they are now enduring, will the two sides unlock additional public investment in teachers' pay."

This tough stand angered Mr David Hart, the new secretary of the teachers' side. "It seems to me that the education service is in grave danger of being brought to a halt next year as a result of the combination of the positions adopted by the National Union of Teachers and Sir Keith," he said.



Police officers blocking the entrance to the Liverpool side of the Queensway Mersey tunnel yesterday after police raids on both Mersey road tunnels, to investigate allegations that toll operators had been involved in fraud and theft. The Birkenhead tunnel was blocked for an hour and "honesty boxes" were later opened while toll operators were questioned.

Dons vote for strike over funding

By David Jobbins of The Times Higher Education Supplement

University lecturers are to take strike action for the first time in their union's history in an attempt to draw attention to their anger over university funding and the consequences for their pay.

Plans for a one-day strike on January 15 have been endorsed in a ballot of the 30,000 members of the Association of University Teachers.

Voting was narrower than union leaders would have liked with just over one-third of the association's members declaring themselves in favour.

But the union executive, meeting in Newcastle-upon-Tyne last night, decided to go ahead with the action and to put plans for continuing the campaign to the union's council, tomorrow.

With 68 per cent of members voting, the strike call was endorsed by 10,871 votes to 9,051. The executive has no power to instruct its members to strike and union leaders are giving urgent consideration to ways of involving lecturers who voted against the strike.

Right wins seats in TGWU poll

By David Felton, Labour Correspondent

The leadership of Britain's largest union, for many years seen as the left's standard bearer, has moved right with the likelihood of further change in the new year.

Results of elections to the Transport and General Workers' Union executive, which emerged last night, indicated that the left had lost at least two seats. Right wingers were jubilant at displacing Mr Walter Greendale, the hard left chairman, who is extremely influential in left politics.

The move to the right in the elections for 25 of the 39 seats is expected to be mirrored in voting for the other 14 seats, probably in February, which will be held under the new electoral system agreed this week to comply with the law.

Defeat for Mr Greendale, aged 66, a Hull dockworker who is a supporter of what used to be known as the Bennite left, is a substantial blow. Last night, his political allies were pondering ways of ensuring that "he is not left in the cold".

One possibility is for Mr Greendale, a member of the TUC General Council, to stand

for the executive in the docks and waterways trade group election to be held in the new year. It is ironic that if the system had not been changed to allow direct elections from the trade groups to the executive, Mr Greendale would not have been able to stand.

There is some doubt whether Mr Greendale would wish to seek nomination, having been defeated in his home base, Humberston. His supporters said that his defeat, by about 700-800 votes out of 8,000, was partly due to a series of articles in *The Star*.

Mr Greendale's autocratic style was also said to have been a factor in his downfall. It is significant that the other left-wing member for Humberston, Miss Joan Burbridge, has been re-elected, in spite of being closely identified with Mr Greendale's politics.

A political battle to find a successor to Mr Greendale as chairman is certain, with the likely front runners being Mr Danny Duffy, a Scottish lorry driver who will be backed by the left, and Mr Brian Nicholson, a London dockworker long

associated with the left but regarded as a moderate Kincock supporter.

The other main gain for the right appeared to have been in the Midlands, where Mr Ron Newcombe, a shop steward at Jaguar Cars, was expected to lose his seat to Mr George O'Reilly, a Coventry council worker.

Several new faces will appear at the executive's first meeting next March but in the territorial section they will all be moderates. The 14 trade group seats have largely been the left's preserve but the new system is likely to make them more winnable for the right.

Left-wing strongholds in the north-west, Scotland and London are expected to return sitting members while the right-wing areas of Wales, the north-east, south-west and south coast will also show no change in political leanings, although some personnel changes.

The new executive will be good news for Mr Neil Kincock, Labour leader, because the TGWU's large block vote is more likely to be swung behind him.

Security review at Downing St

By Stewart Tandler Crime Reporter

A review of security for 10 Downing Street and surrounding buildings has been ordered by Mr Douglas Hurd, Home Secretary, after the discovery of an intruder on the roof of the Prime Minister's residence last weekend.

Scotland Yard said the intruder did not present a serious breach of security, but in a parliamentary written answer yesterday Mr Hurd disclosed that a serious gap in Downing Street's defences had been found.

He told Mr Harry Greenway, Conservative MP for Ealing North, that a report by the Yard showed that alarms and police responses to the intruder worked effectively.

Navy force to go on world trip

By Rodney Cowton Defence Correspondent

Seven ships of the Royal Navy and the Royal Fleet Auxiliary, led by the carrier, HMS Illustrious, are to make an eight-month round-the-world deployment next year.

They will leave next April under the command of Rear Admiral Robin Hogg, and visit the north Pacific, Far East, Australasia and Indian Ocean areas. Full details of their programme have to be worked out but it is understood that they will not visit New Zealand because of its unwillingness to accept ships that may be carrying nuclear weapons.

The policy of the Royal Navy is to refuse to say whether ships are nuclear-armed.

ITV toughens stand on electricians' strike

By David Hewson

Leaders of the electricians' union will meet in London today to discuss their dispute in independent television amid a hardening of attitudes among commercial television employers.

More than 400 members of the union have been suspended at five stations, Central, ITV, LWT, ITN and Thames for taking industrial action over new contract clauses concerning sexual staff and late-night working.

According to one industry source last night the average wage for an ITV electrician is £22,000 a year including overtime, and £32,000 in London. At LWT it is understood that the highest paid electrician earns about £40,000 a year.

The electricians fear that a new contract being proposed

could lead to a drastic reduction in their salaries and more casual employment, although the companies insist that the clauses concerned have been operating since 1957.

Staff at the five stations where electricians have been suspended walked out after talks at Acas broke down earlier this week. Their absence has caused reduced lighting for live programmes and affected the recording of items for future use and has had some effect on transmissions.

The union says that it does not intend to disrupt transmissions on Christmas Day. Management insists that broadcasts are not immediately affected by electricians' walk-outs, however, and believes that senior executives will step in to ensure transmissions go out.

Council will pay tenants to quit

By Colin Hughes, Local Government Correspondent

The London Borough of Bromley's housing committee has set aside £1 million to offer to tenants will leave council accommodation to buy their own homes. The plan is to offset the success of the council's housing sales policy, which has left it unable to meet its legal obligations.

Bromley tops the housing sales league, with more than 2,500 homes sold since 1980. Four fifths of the sales have of two three-bedroom houses, with the result that the council can no longer hope to rehouse families from the waiting list, however desperate their plight.

An emergency meeting of the housing committee for Tuesday night said that for the council should pay £5,000 to up to 200 tenants who committed themselves to buying their own homes in the private sector, thus releasing two-bedroom units to the council for reletting.

The London Borough of Brent is operating a similar scheme with some success. If a private landlord were to offer secure tenants financial inducements to give up possession of their homes, he could be guilty of harassment under the Protection from Eviction Act.

Mr Arthur Kitson, Bromley's director of housing, said yesterday he had reservations as to how successful the scheme would be. "With the Government offering 40 per cent to 70 per cent discounts on the purchase of existing council homes, it has to be a considerable financial inducement to make tenants give up that sort of money advantage in the right to buy their council accommodation," he said.

"We do however, get tenants who are leaving to buy their own homes elsewhere, and the extra £5,000 may make all the difference to some."

The housing committee preferred the financial inducement scheme to proposals for income-capped council building, aid to council housing, or grants to shared ownership, self-build or joint venture housing schemes. Before it comes into operation the policy has to be approved by the policy and resources committee, which meets on January 15.

Housing 'to be cut by 19%

By Colin Hughes, Local Government Correspondent

The Government detailed yesterday housing allocations for 1986-87, £1,465 million compared with £1,600 million for 1985-86. It brought immediate protests from the Association of Metropolitan Authorities.

When Mr Kenneth Baker, Secretary of State for the Environment, announced the allocations, he said that the Government had gained an increase of £220 million in public housing provision. The AMA said last night: "The extra £220 million simply does not exist." The allocation showed a cut of 19 per cent in real terms, it said.

The allocations, announced by Mr John Patten, Minister for Housing, include £50 million reserved for the first time for projects identified by local authorities in conjunction with the Urban Housing Renewal Unit, set up in July to help councils tackle run down, difficult-to-let estates.

Mr Patten said that the allocations were being distributed with greater emphasis on the need for spending on renovating the local authority stock, homelessness, needs of the inner cities and obligations of authorities to make good defects.

About £30 million will be channelled direct to regions, such as the South-west and the South-east.

Opposition MPs deplore student grant cuts

By Lucy Hodges Education Correspondent

A total of 91 opposition MPs had yesterday signed an early day motion deplored the Government's announcement of a 3.5 per cent cut in the real value of the student grant and its decision to remove students' eligibility for supplementary and housing benefit in the short vacations. (Lucy Hodges writes)

Mr Giles Radice, Labour spokesman on education, and one of the motion's signatories, said he believed it had the makings of "yet another widespread revolt against the Government".

Although there are no Conservative signatures to the motion yet, Mr Robert Rhodes James, Conservative MP for

INLA hunger strike begins

By Richard Ford, Belfast

A convicted terrorist refused breakfast in the Maze Prison yesterday, signalling the start of the Irish National Liberation Army's threatened hunger strike in protest at the jailing of 27 men on the word of an informer.

Robert Tohill, aged 26, had declared in Belfast Crown Court that he would be the first of the sentenced men to be a fast to death and at 11.15 an he refused food.

It is thought that other men will follow Tohill on hunger strike at weekly intervals, although how committed to the action, given that they are likely to appeal against their convictions, and how much support there is in the community for

AUEW again favours state cash for ballots

By Barrie Clement, Labour Reporter

The fact that the Amalgamated Union of Engineering Workers has voted by nearly eight to one to accept government money for ballots, is further confirmation that the grassroots of the labour movement has accepted the principle of state aid for secret voting procedures.

The voting was 239,875 to 31,569 in a 34.9 per cent poll and comes after last week's nine to one vote by the Electrical, Electronic, Telecommunications and Plumbing Union to do the same.

Both the engineers and the electricians were under threat of suspension or expulsion from the TUC until recently for taking the money, but last week called a special conference in February to revise the policy. A year ago the engineers voted by 12 to one to take the money, but the AUEW national committee called for another poll.

Announcing the result in London yesterday, Mr Gavin Laird, general secretary of the engineers, said: "I am not prepared to talk about the TUC giving away. Norman Willis (TUC general secretary) has tried very hard to find a formula and we are delighted that has been achieved. I am not going to crow about it."

MP seeks BT shares inquiry

By Richard Evans, Lobby Reporter

The Commons public accounts committee, Parliament's public spending watchdog, is to ask the Treasury to investigate allegations of "sharp practice" arising out of the British Telecom flotation.

Mr Bryan Gould, Labour's frontbench trade spokesman, made the request yesterday because of his concern at reports that members of City institutions, which were changing higher than normal fees while acting in a professional capacity, dealt in shares on their own personal accounts when it was clear they could make a big profit.

"It is precisely this sort of conflict of interest which worries so many about the way the City operates. The taxpayer has lost out because the rules were not tight enough or were not strictly applied," he said yesterday.

In a letter to Mr Robert Sheldon, chairman of the committee, Mr Gould said it seemed likely that when it became clear that large capital gains could be made overnight, many firms acting as underwriters decided "to distribute large numbers of shares to 'amongst themselves, their staff and their favoured clients and friends'."

He added: "I know of one case of a commodity broker acting as an underwriter, a capacity which is not a regulated activity, and making gains of 20,000 shares each to their heads of department and 5,000 shares each to their principal dealers."

2 sentenced for pit strike killing

By Colin Hughes, Local Government Correspondent

Colin Duffy, aged 23, a miner was jailed for four years and Patrick McHale, a former apprentice footballer, aged 19, was given a three-year youth custody at Sheffield Crown Court yesterday after pleading guilty to the manslaughter of David Carr, aged 17, in November 1984, during the miners' strike. Both were from Doncaster.

Mr Carr's brother Melvyn, aged 32, was found not guilty of affray but was given a suspended 12 month prison sentence after pleading guilty of possessing an offensive weapon, a home-made spiked club. Hardisty had triggered the incident by throwing a stone at the Doncaster home of Melvyn Carr who had returned to work during the strike.

£1m breeding ground for toads

By Patricia Clough

British Nuclear Fuels is to spend £1 million to create a new breeding ground for about 500 rare natterjack toads, whose present home is in the path of a planned railway track at its Sellafield complex in Cumbria. The company will dig new ponds, divert a stream and landscape the area with the toads' favourite soil and plants at a cost of about £2,000 a toad.

Mr Robin Luxmoore, a mechanical engineer and amateur naturalist, who looks after the toads' interests in BNF, said the company had already spent between £5,000 and £10,000 on the creatures in the past 10 years, including building a dam, so their present pond did not dry out during tailpipe time.

Police question journalists on secrets leak

By Philip Webster Political Reporter

Police investigating an alleged breach of section two of the Official Secrets Act yesterday interviewed staff of the *New Statesman* magazine in London (our Crime Reporter writes).

Detectives from Avon and Somerset spoke to the editor, Mr Hugh Stephenson, and Mr Duncan Campbell, who wrote a report, published on November 29, which gave details of a police order about the movement of nuclear weapons through the area.

Afterwards Mr Campbell said the police had cautioned journalists and told them a report would be sent to the Director of Public Prosecutions concerning any breaches of section two and section 12, which also covers official information.

High Court to hear child care cases

By Philip Webster Political Reporter

Difficult or lengthy child-care cases will be able to be transferred from magistrates' courts to the High Court under the Children and Young Persons (Amendment) Bill which was published yesterday.

The provision has been included after discussions between the Bill's sponsor, Mr Dennis Walters, Conservative MP for Westbury, and senior Government ministers, and MPs are hoping that it will improve its chances of success.

Mr Walters, who finished third in the ballot for private members' legislation, brought in a measure to strengthen child protection in the wake of widespread public concern

Police question journalists on secrets leak

By Philip Webster Political Reporter

Police investigating an alleged breach of section two of the Official Secrets Act yesterday interviewed staff of the *New Statesman* magazine in London (our Crime Reporter writes).

Detectives from Avon and Somerset spoke to the editor, Mr Hugh Stephenson, and Mr Duncan Campbell, who wrote a report, published on November 29, which gave details of a police order about the movement of nuclear weapons through the area.

Afterwards Mr Campbell said the police had cautioned journalists and told them a report would be sent to the Director of Public Prosecutions concerning any breaches of section two and section 12, which also covers official information.

High Court to hear child care cases

By Philip Webster Political Reporter

Difficult or lengthy child-care cases will be able to be transferred from magistrates' courts to the High Court under the Children and Young Persons (Amendment) Bill which was published yesterday.

The provision has been included after discussions between the Bill's sponsor, Mr Dennis Walters, Conservative MP for Westbury, and senior Government ministers, and MPs are hoping that it will improve its chances of success.

Mr Walters, who finished third in the ballot for private members' legislation, brought in a measure to strengthen child protection in the wake of widespread public concern

Police question journalists on secrets leak

By Philip Webster Political Reporter

Police investigating an alleged breach of section two of the Official Secrets Act yesterday interviewed staff of the *New Statesman* magazine in London (our Crime Reporter writes).

Detectives from Avon and Somerset spoke to the editor, Mr Hugh Stephenson, and Mr Duncan Campbell, who wrote a report, published on November 29, which gave details of a police order about the movement of nuclear weapons through the area.

Afterwards Mr Campbell said the police had cautioned journalists and told them a report would be sent to the Director of Public Prosecutions concerning any breaches of section two and section 12, which also covers official information.

sex kill
life for
stabbing
Few
favour
Aids
for war
Jail after
siege
Police

Child sex killer, 79, gets life for frenzied stabbing of girl

A man aged 79 who stabbed Kirsty Bryant, aged seven, to death during a frenzied sexual attack was jailed for life at the Central Criminal Court yesterday.

George Watson showed no emotion as he was taken to the cells amid shouts and death threats from relatives of the dead child who leaned over the public gallery to point accusing fingers at him.

Two elderly male and two female jurors, who returned their verdict of guilty to murder in 55 minutes, wept at full details of Watson's criminal record were disclosed to them and to the girl's parents. He had been sentenced to a total of 39 years' imprisonment for 73 previous convictions.

A woman juror shouted as Watson was led from the court: "How could they let this animal live?"

Watson, from Portobello, near Edinburgh, believed to be the oldest man in Britain to face a murder trial, this century, abducted the girl on January 29 from outside a chip shop in Kingston, Surrey, where he worked as a part-time cleaner.

Within an hour he had killed her at his old people's bungalow in Aycliffe Close, Kingston.

Det Chief Insp John Jones said that Watson had given his date of birth as May 13, 1906, although the police suspected he was 75. He had 73 previous convictions, mainly for dishonesty and had been given jail sentences totalling 30 years for past crimes, the last term of imprisonment being in 1982.

In 1945, at Edinburgh High Court, Watson was sentenced to three years' penal servitude for assaulting his nephew aged 11 and an assault with intent to ravish a girl aged nine. He then won a fight of nine rounds and sexually assaulted her while she was unconscious.

In 1968, at the Central Criminal Court Watson was jailed for seven years for abducting a girl aged 10 and trying to strangle her while sexually assaulting her.

He was interviewed by the police, but eliminated from inquiries in connection with the murder of Caroline Fogg, aged five, who disappeared

from a fairground near Portobello in July 1983 and whose body was found near a motorway in Leicestershire 10 days later.

Because of his record Watson was arrested eight hours before Kirsty Bryant's body was found by her father.

She had been stabbed more than 70 times, with a long-bladed breadknife and a two-pronged fork. Many of the injuries were to her head, face and neck. Watson then sexually mutilated her body.

He cleaned up, dumped the body in a neighbour's dustbin

from the public gallery. There were shouts of: "You bastard, you'll get your inside!"

After his arrest, Watson told detectives: "I hate men and I hate women, with the exception of Mary. I hate boys and I hate girls. But most of all I hate coppers."

In a letter to Miss Cooney from prison Watson begged forgiveness for the murder and added: "My only excuse is drink, and that is no excuse."

Inspired of a full confession and the letter Watson told the jury someone else was responsible for the killing.

Kirsty Bryant, who lived in Addison Gardens, Kingston, was described as "a little angel" by family, neighbours and teachers. A shy child, she would never willingly go off with a stranger. Watson had seen her as she stopped for chips with her brother Alan, aged 11, while they were on their way home from school. The boy went off for a swimming lesson, believing his sister was safe.

Mr Colin Nicholls, QC, for the prosecution, said that Watson had been drinking heavily. He shouted at the girl and because she was afraid went with him to his home 200 yards from the shop. He then attacked her in the kitchen.

Several times during the trial members of the jury of seven men and five women showed signs of distress, particularly when looking at harrowing police photographs of the girl's body.

Watson is to be questioned by the police about unsolved child killings over a number of years.

Watson, if he lives, will serve at least 20 years under guidance lines from Mr Leon Brittan the former Home Secretary.

Mr Brittan told the Conservative Party conference in 1983: "Those who commit sexual or sadistic murders of children are guilty of acts of a particularly repulsive character. It is right that they should expect to serve at least 20 years in prison."

His sentence will begin with a period of assessment of several months before it is decided where he should serve the remainder of his sentence.

Watson, who had 73 previous convictions, went out drinking with a girlfriend, Miss Mary Cooney, aged 23.

Mr Justice Simon Brown told Watson: "You have been found guilty on the clearest possible evidence. Words cannot express one's feelings of revulsion of an offence such as this, the wicked murder of an innocent child."

"You entered this trusting and defenceless little girl back to your house and then you committed upon her a ferocious and sustained attack which, bravely but vainly, she struggled to resist. One can only guess at the intense misery you have brought on her family."

As Watson was led to the cells he will serve his sentence in solitary confinement because of threats from other prisoners, the child's father, Mr John Bryant, aged 31, a builder, and several of her uncles, watched



Members of the crew of HMS Ark Royal with patients at the Hospital for Sick Children, Great Ormond Street, London, yesterday, admiring a 6ft long iced fruit cake, in the ship's shape, and made for its commissioning, which the crew donated to Ward 5D (Photograph: Suresh Karadia).

Pop star not to blame for mishap

Paul McCartney, the musician and song writer, was not to blame for a delivery man's broken ankle, a High Court judge ruled yesterday.

In a test case brought by the mother of the Yorkshire Ripper's last victim, Jacqueline Hill, aged 20, retired judge Sir Neil Lawson, aged 77, said there was no reasonable course of action. The claim by Mrs Doreen Hill against West Yorkshire's Chief Constable Mr Colin Sampson, would be struck out.

Hospital fights £13m merger

St Bartholomew's Hospital medical school is taking legal advice to see if it can block plans to merge its pre-clinical school with Queen Mary College and the London Hospital, should London University and the University Grants Committee press ahead with the £13 million scheme.

St Bartholomew's believes it may have an action for judicial review if the money from the medical school is used on facilities at Queen Mary College.

Air commodore wins damages

Air Commodore Ian Young, former Provost Marshal and director of RAF security, won "substantial" libel damages in the High Court in London yesterday over an allegation in the Mail on Sunday that he had investigated breaches of security for which he himself was responsible.

Associated Newspapers, the publishers, and Mr Adrian Lithgow, a journalist, accepted there was no breach of security, apologized, and agreed to pay the undisputed damages and legal costs.

£100,000 colt free for a day

A thoroughbred yearling colt owned by the Aga Khan was found unharmed, grazing in the back garden of an empty house at Blewbury, Oxfordshire, yesterday after a search by teams of searchers, police and a helicopter for almost 24 hours.

The £100,000 colt, which had been in training only since Monday, bolted as he was being broken in on a long rein at the stables in Blewbury of Mr Fulke Johnson-Houghton, a trainer, Wednesday afternoon.

£1m needed to buy Renoir

The Fitzwilliam Museum, Cambridge, is to attempt to raise about £1 million to buy the Renoir painting, "La Place Clichy", which it has had on loan for eight years.

The National Art-Collections Fund said that it would offer £100,000 towards the purchase, and the National Memorial Heritage Fund is also expected to consider supporting the bid. The painting has been offered to the museum privately at well below open market price by a relative of Samuel Courtauld.

'Racial insult' claim fails

complain about working conditions or environment then that could contravene the Act.

The Commission for Racial Equality said yesterday that the court in its reserve judgment had also ruled that, if such a complaint was justifiable, an employer was liable under the Act for racial abuse by one employee to another.

The applied, even if the employee was prepared to work on and put up with the harassment and whether the abusive person was of managerial status or not.

The commission commended Mrs de Souza's bravery in bringing the case and establishing the law.

The commission said Mrs de Souza aged 45, of Kempston,

'Ripper' damages claim fails

Police officers who fail to stop murderers and rapists attacking innocent people cannot be sued for damages, a High Court judge ruled yesterday.

In a test case brought by the mother of the Yorkshire Ripper's last victim, Jacqueline Hill, aged 20, retired judge Sir Neil Lawson, aged 77, said there was no reasonable course of action. The claim by Mrs Doreen Hill against West Yorkshire's Chief Constable Mr Colin Sampson, would be struck out.

Giving judgement in court after a private hearing, Sir Neil said: "It is highly undesirable for a court to exercise a supervisory jurisdiction over the conduct of criminal investigations."

Mrs Hill, from Middlesbrough, whose daughter was the

thirteenth victim of Peter Sutcliffe, in November 1980 claimed about £100,000 damages for negligence, arguing that the police should have caught him earlier, so her daughter would still be alive.

She sought damages from Mr Sampson, who replaced Mr Ronald Gregory, who angered Mrs Hill when he sold his memoirs to a newspaper for what she described as "blood money."

Sir Neil said that he had seen how members of the public performed at Sherlock Holmes. To invite the court to perform a Sherlock Holmes act would put the judge in an unevident position.

"If the police thought the whole of their actions were going to be overlooked by the court in a claim for damages,

Higgins fails to appear at court

Alex Higgins, the former snooker champion, yesterday blamed a mix-up for his failure to appear at a court, and magistrates at Macclesfield, Cheshire, granted a stay of execution on an arrest warrant issued in his absence.

The court issued the warrant after the former world champion failed to arrive in the morning to answer a summons alleging breach of the peace.

But execution of the warrant was suspended after Higgins telephoned the clerk of the court, who told him he must appear on December 27 instead.

Mr Higgins told newsmen in the afternoon, before a practice session in preparation for a match later against Steve Davis: "Apparently I should have been in court this morning but I got nothing in my box informing me of any court appearance."

Carne charges

Judy Carne, aged 46, the actress is to appear before magistrates in Uxbridge today charged with two drugs offences. She was arrested at Heathrow Airport last weekend while on her way to face other drug charges at Northampton.

Legal access sought for house repairs

Changes in the law to give property owners the right to go on to a neighbour's land to repair their own properties are called for by the Law Commission in a report published yesterday.

The law prevents a person lawfully entering his neighbour's land without permission to carry out essential repairs, even if his house is likely to fall down. However unreasonable a neighbour's refusal of access, the householder has no remedy in law, the report says.

As a result "properties throughout the country are liable to deteriorate for want of repair and maintenance, with consequent financial loss to their owners and some detriment to the public", the commission says.

In 1978 a building owned by the National Westminster Bank in Cardiff was found to be dangerous, the report says. The bank was refused permission to put scaffolding partly on the adjoining property but went ahead and sent in contractors.

The High Court granted an injunction to the neighbour to stop the contractors.

The commission calls for a right of access to be granted on application to a court. It proposes three safeguards: the work must be for preservation. Second, a neighbour who would suffer hardship as a result of allowing entry would be able to prevent an order being granted, on the grounds of severe and unreasonable hardship.

Third, the owner doing the work would be made to pay compensation, to take out insurance to protect the neighbour and to take other precautions depending on the circumstances.

The Law Commission: Rights of Access to Neighbouring Land (Stationary Office, £6.30).

Price of new telephones 'too high'

Telephone subscribers are paying more than they should to have a telephone installed, because of the monopoly on wiring held by British Telecom. The installation cost could be cut by at least a quarter.

The claim has been made by the Telecom Dealers' Association, representing dealers, manufacturers and equipment suppliers, which has called on OfTel, (the Office of Telecommunications), to end the monopoly. OfTel, the telephone consumers' watchdog, is studying the monopoly on domestic wiring and is to announce its decision within the next few weeks. The dealers association fears that OfTel will attempt to compromise and leave British Telecom with the right to install the principal socket in a household's telephone wiring and thus prevent the consumer from benefiting from competition.

Consumers could buy kits to install their own wiring, assuming Telecom's monopoly was ended, the TDA claims. There are about four million households that have yet to be wired for the first telephone.

The basic cost of installation could be as low as £5 plus the cost of connection and a telephone handset, it says.

'Crude' art forger jailed

A picture restorer who painted in the style of famous twentieth-century Scottish artists and sold his work as original was jailed for 18 months at Edinburgh High Court yesterday.

Anthony Conduct, aged 29, from London Street, Edinburgh, admitted selling the paintings at auctions for £3,420 and presenting 17 other fakes to galleries and auction rooms with intent to defraud.

Lord Ross, the Lord Justice Clerk, said that Conduct's fraud had been a sophisticated scheme which had grave consequences for the art world. One painting, "Iona", said to have been painted by Samuel Peploe,

July change in new car plates urged

By Clifford Webb
Motoring Correspondent

The Motor Agents Association has told Mr Nicholas Ridley, Secretary of State for Transport, that Britain's garages have voiced overwhelmingly to keep the annual letter change on new car registration plates but want it moved from August to July.

An unprecedented 60 per cent of the association's 5,000 franchised dealers responded to the poll. That reflects the growing concern in the trade that faced with division among the manufacturers Mr Ridley is preparing to impose his own solution.

Austin Rover has led the campaign to change from August because, it claims, that month favours importers. They are able to meet the huge August demand, one in five of annual sales, by topping-up car stocks from continental factories. The British company, however, has to turn the production "tap" on and off with record output followed by lulls.

Mr Mike Lacey, deputy managing director of Glass's Guide, the trade's price guide, told the association of national vehicle committee recently that he estimated the annual letter change is worth up to 100,000 extra sales.

Motoring, page 23

Scots divorces rise to 25%

More than one in four Scottish marriages ends in divorce compared with one in three in England, according to figures published yesterday.

The divorce rate for couples marrying by civil ceremony is more than double that for church marriages, the survey by the Registrar-General for Scotland says. It also shows that divorces have risen from about 2,000 annually in the 1950s to more than 11,000 last year.

Peer's daughter leapt to death

Miss Kate Mitford, aged 24, the daughter of Lord Redesdale, and second cousin of the Mitford sisters, threw herself from a tower block because she could not cope with life, St Pancras coroner's court in London was told yesterday.

Miss Mitford, who lived with her parents at St Mark's Square, Camden, north London, had attempted to take her life twice before, and was being treated for depression. A verdict of suicide as a result of her illness was recorded.

Design faults in prisons cost millions, audit finds

By Peter Evans Home Affairs Correspondent

Millions of pounds worth of faults in new prisons were disclosed in a report yesterday by the National Audit Office.

"Various design faults in Holloway were attributed to the responsible consultants", the report says. "The consequential remedial works had cost £1.9 million by the end of 1984 and were not then complete. The Home Office, on legal advice, secured damages of £600,000 in an out-of-court settlement."

More than £4 million is expected to be spent at Wymott Prison installing new pitched roofs over flat ones. All told, the estimated cost of remedial work at Wymott is more than £7 million.

The National Audit Office found that the manning impli-

Unanswered questions on dead actor

There were "enormous unanswered questions" surrounding the death of Garry Holton, of the *Ad Weltersheren*, Pet television serial, an inquest was told yesterday.

Mr David Paul, the coroner, recorded an open verdict at Hornsey, north London.

Medical evidence had shown that Mr Holton had "very high levels" of ammonia and alcohol in his blood. There were also traces of cannabis and Valium.

Miss Janet McIlwain, his girlfriend, found him dead in a bed after heavy drinking the previous day, the inquest was told.

Dr Rufus Crompton, a pathologist, said Mr Holton would have been drinking less than half-an-hour before his death and the intravenous injection of morphine would have left him unconscious "in a matter of minutes."

Mr Holton, aged 33, of Durham Court, Kilburn Park Road, Maida Vale, north London, was found dead at the home of his friend, Mr Paul Witz, of Greenway Walk, Chalk Hill Estate, Wembley, on October 25. He had a blood alcohol level of 199 mg and a morphine level of 0.8 mg.

The inquest was told by Miss McIlwain and two other witnesses who had been with Mr Holton the previous night before he fell asleep that he had not taken any drugs.

The coroner said: "It must follow from the medical evidence that this man had a fix of heroin. The absence of any evidence to indicate when this was taken and the absence of evidence about finding a syringe and other material for drug abuse leaves enormous unanswered questions."

"Initially this matter was perfectly straight forward. A man who had been a heroin abuser under stress took a fix which proved to be fatal."

"There is no evidence at all to support a finding that this death is due to misadventure. The gaps in the evidence leave me to record the only possible finding in this matter."

Piggott fined after racing past drivers

Lester Piggott, the jockey, was brought to a police-stop by motorists after showing their cars with stone chippings magistrates at Newmarket, Suffolk were told yesterday.

His Mercedes was boxed in at the back by a pick-up truck and at the front by a car, the court was told.

Mr John Everitt, for the prosecution, said that Piggott, of Hamilton Road, Newmarket, overtook four vehicles on a newly-surfaced road.

Piggott admitted driving without reasonable consideration. He was fined £90 and had his licence endorsed.

Jail after gun siege at police station

Peter Lane, who chased his rival in love into a police station and threatened to kill him with a shotgun, was jailed for three years at Cardiff Crown Court yesterday.

Lane shot his way to the cells where his victim had been hidden by the police. For four-and-a-half hours Lane, aged 52, and an unemployed gardener of Pencroft Road, Barry, South Wales.

His rival in love, Mr Trevor Thompson, covered under a blanket, bleeding from head wounds after an earlier axe attack by Lane.

Few burglary victims favour prison sentence

By Thomson Prentice Science Correspondent

Only a third of burglary victims consider that the criminal who burgled them should be jailed, the National Association for the Care and Resettlement of Offenders (Nacro) said yesterday.

The finding, by the British Crime Survey 1983, did not mean that burglary was not a source of considerable anxiety, however. In high-risk areas four in 10 people were "very worried" about burglary. Fear of burglary was higher than fear of being mugged and robbed.

Yet there was consistent evidence that victims and the public in general were not inclined to be particularly punitive, Nacro said in a briefing paper.

On average the annual risk of a household being burgled is one in 25. The recorded burglary rate is highest in Merseyside (3,590 per 100,000 population) and lowest in Dyfed/Powys (601).

Aids virus man-made for warfare, doctor says

By Thomson Prentice Science Correspondent

The virus responsible for the acquired immune deficiency syndrome, Aids, may have been man-made, a specialist in sexual diseases said yesterday.

Dr Victor Weiss, a specialist in sexual diseases said yesterday.

There was "circumstantial evidence" to support the belief that the virus was genetically engineered in a laboratory, Dr John Seale, a Harley Street virologist, said.

Dr Seale said that the Aids virus was "genetically similar" to virus viruses, the source of a fatal disease in sheep.

In a letter to the New Zealand Aids Foundation, which he made public yesterday, Dr Seale said the possibility that the Aids virus had been created by man deserved serious consideration.

But his theory was rejected by a number of Aids specialists yesterday. "There is no evidence to give this idea any credibility," Dr Jonathan Weber, a research fellow who has been studying Aids at the Chester Beatty Institute in London for three years, said.

"The problem with conspiracy theories is that they cannot be disproved."

Dr Tom McManus, a consultant in genetic-virus medicine at King's College Hospital, London, said: "It seems ludicrous to suggest that people have the expertise to make such a virus, but not to make a vaccine for it."

"Theories such as this are unhelpful in a difficult and complex situation, when we should be concentrating on looking after our patients."

Dr Richard Tedder, consultant microbiologist at the Middlesex Hospital, London, said: "There is no evidence that the Aids virus is man-made. The suggestion that it could be used as a biological weapon with only forment anxiety."

Dr Seale said that in the past two weeks, radio broadcasts from Moscow had alleged that Aids is being spread by American servicemen based abroad. He did not believe the allegations. "It is just as likely, if not more so, that the virus could have been released from a Russian laboratory," he said.

'Racial insult' claim fails

Mrs Maria de Souza, a secretary who was referred to as "the wog" at work by a fellow employee, did not suffer unlawful racial discrimination by her employers, the Automobile Association, the Court of Appeal held yesterday (Our Home Affairs Correspondent writes).

Lord Justice May ruled that racially to insult a coloured employee was not enough for her to suffer a detriment under the Race Relations Act. She would have to suffer disadvantage in the circumstances in which she had afterwards to work.

Where the discrimination was such that a reasonable employee could justifiably

PARLIAMENT DECEMBER 19 1985

Building Societies Bill

Drink and driving

Fish and food

Cabinet agrees Westland must take decision

DEFENCE

Mrs Thatcher, the Prime Minister, confirmed in the Commons that the Cabinet had decided that the future of Westland, the helicopter makers, was a matter for the company itself to decide.

She came under attack from Mr Neil Kinnock, Leader of the Opposition, for backing the company and not backing Mr Michael Heseltine, Secretary of State for Defence. To loud Labour laughter, Mrs Thatcher retorted that the position of the Cabinet was the position of the whole Government.

Mr Derek Spencer (Leicester South, C) beginning the exchanges asked: In view of the announcement by the board of Westland of their intention to enter into an agreement with Sikorsky/Hill, will she confirm that the position of the Government is as set out by the Secretary of State for Trade and Industry (Mr Leon Brittan) in his statement on Monday?

Mrs Thatcher: Yes. The future of Westland is a matter for the company to decide. The company's decision is a matter of commercial judgement of its directors and shareholders. That was the position set out by Mr Brittan and that was the position reaffirmed by the Cabinet this morning.

Mr Kinnock: It smacks of something of a change for her actually to go to the Cabinet. Given the relatively obvious public views of the Secretary of State for Defence (Mr Michael Heseltine) and the Select Committee on Defence, does Mrs Thatcher really think that the subjective preferences of a company are an adequate basis on which to determine important national defence interests of the country?

Mrs Thatcher: This is a private sector, public limited company. The

future of Westland is a matter of commercial judgement for its directors and ultimately for its shareholders. That was the position reaffirmed by the Cabinet.

Mr Kinnock: Mrs Thatcher points out that the company is responsible to its shareholders, but is she not responsible, as Prime Minister, to the nation and for the proper welfare of the nation?

Why does she not take that into proper account, as the Secretary of State for Defence has clearly and publicly pointed out that she should be doing?

When the strategic, considered judgement of her Secretary of State for Defence is contrary to the view given by a private company, why is she backing them and not backing him?

Mrs Thatcher: I have indicated the position of the Cabinet this morning and the position of the whole Government. I will the Prime Minister ensure that there is no question of the Ministry of Defence discriminating against the Westland company?

Mr Kinnock: I indicated the Cabinet's decision. Major procurement decisions are a matter for collective decision of the Government as a whole.

Mr Kinnock: I have indicated the Cabinet's decision. Major procurement decisions are a matter for collective decision of the Government as a whole.

Satisfactory fishing deal

EUROPE

Increased fishery protection measures are being mounted in the waters round south-western England where there will be two fishery protection vessels, more patrols by Nimrod aircraft and the list of Spanish boats which fish there is to be computerized to improve policing of their fishing.

This emerged in exchanges after a Commons statement by Mr John Gummer, Minister of State for Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, about the Fisheries Council of the EEC earlier this week.

In his statement, Mr Gummer said that the agreement reached on total allowable catches and quotas for the Tenth in 1986 was a package which was highly satisfactory for the United Kingdom.

He had criticized at the council some aspects of the agreement on fishing with Norway on which total allowable catches (TACs) had had to be based. In general, however, the package of TACs, quotas and third country arrangements negotiated offered a particularly attractive

range of fishing opportunities to the United Kingdom.

There were significant increases in British haddock and saithe quotas and improvements in cod, plaice and sole quotas.

They had successfully resisted Danish pressure for continuation of special allocation of cod to Denmark outside the TAC. Britain had achieved a one-third increase in herring quotas in the important Northern and Central North Sea areas and a useful mackerel quota in the North Sea.

In Western pelagic stocks, original mackerel and herring quotas were increased but the outcome was still, as it should be, in view of scientific advice, below last year's levels. There had been increases in availability of sole in the South-West of about a third and of plaice by about 10 per cent.

We also obtained (he said) an immediate increase in our current quota for plaice in the Bristol Channel which would allow the fishery to be reopened for the rest of the year.

It added up to a very satisfactory settlement but was overshadowed by the danger of the Commission

proposal that the derogation allowing the Danes to take an 18 per cent by-catch from Norway which they did last year instead of 10 per cent, which is the basic amount permitted under the 1983 Common Fisheries Policy.

Britain had fought against the Commission proposal for six months and he was relieved and delighted that it had been excluded from the package and was now withdrawn.

The Council had agreed a series of improvements to the regulation on control of fishing which should provide for better enforcement of log books and landing declarations as well as better control of transshipments to receiving vessels.

Mr Stuart Randall (Hull, West, Lab), an Opposition spokesman, said that many British people, especially those in the fishing industry, believed that the new EEC countries had overfished certain stocks and were not acceptable to British fishermen. He asked for an assurance that unfair practices would be discontinued.

The statement was inadequate on protection and enforcement (he



Randall: Other countries ripping us off

said). They should not continue the same old routine of other countries ripping off our industry.

Mr Gummer: It is not fair to suggest that we have not been concerned with enforcement.

Mr Austin Mitchell (Great Grimsby, Lab) said that the reduction of quotas would have serious consequences for Grimsby vessels suitable for cod catching. He asked for compensation, as farmers had got for bad weather.

Mr Gummer said the future of cod fishing depended on protection of stocks achieved by reduction of quota.

The expanding role of building societies

LENDING

The primary theme of the Building Societies Bill was continuity based on a successful formula. Mr Ian Stewart, Economic Secretary to the Treasury, said in the Commons when moving the Bill's second reading.

The basic function of providing loans for house purchase from the savings of members would continue to form the core of building society business, he said. But the Bill would allow considerable diversification around that central theme. Societies would be able to provide a much greater range of services, but the emphasis would still be on their primary function.

The Bill was the most far-reaching legislation on building societies for more than 100 years. In today's fast-changing markets, societies needed to be able to offer a wider range of facilities to an increasingly sophisticated public if they were to continue to compete effectively.

The existing legislation contained restrictions which no longer made sense. For example, societies could arrange insurance on a borrower's garage but could not obtain cover for his car. There were also some provisions which were entirely anachronistic. He thought it was safe to say a prohibition on balloting for mortgages to see which member would be lucky enough to get the next advance was no longer needed.

Completely new legislation was needed, not just another in the long line of amending Bills.

As well as providing new powers for the societies, the Bill would thoroughly modernise their legislative framework and incorporate many of the provisions which had already been enacted for companies.

The Bill would also enable societies to offer a more comprehensive range of services, and to handle a wider range of insurance and investment matters.

New opportunities would also be open to them in the housing market, to own assets and to provide structural surveys. The existing prohibition on conveyancing would be lifted.

Societies would be able to engage in property management and to manage mortgages and would no longer be prohibited from operating elsewhere in the EEC. The Bill would establish a Building Societies Commission to exercise and extend the functions at present carried out by the Chief Registrar of Friendly Societies.

The Bill set out criteria for prudent management against which the performance of a society's board could be measured.

Accounting and control provisions had been updated and the Government would bring forward amendments covering further changes it felt necessary to make. Each year a society's auditors would have to make a report to the commission on whether the society had complied with the statutory requirements for accounting and control systems.

Other measures to protect the interests of investors, and to ensure that societies competed fairly and openly in the market, included a proposal that directors would have to disclose any personal interest in the business of their societies, and there would be new restrictions on loans to directors and their families in line with

provisions already enacted for banks.

Mr Conagh McDonald, an Opposition spokesman on Treasury and economic affairs, moved an amendment seeking to give a second reading to a Bill which extended to building societies powers to engage in unsecured lending and commercial investment which might lead to their failure to maintain their commitment and responsibility for increased housing finance.

She said the Bill was being introduced in response to pressure from the building societies movement or at least some of its members and primarily from the largest building societies, in particular the Halifax and the Abbey National.

The Opposition felt the Bill contained proposals which in the long term could mean the building society movement as they knew it disappearing.

Mr Christopher Hawkins (High Peak, C) said he had certain misgivings. He would have preferred the building societies to stick to mutual societies and friendly societies who helped people to buy their own homes. What better aim could they have?

He did not want to see them leading money to people for holidays abroad. He did not want to see them becoming banks and putting up charges in order to make profits for shareholders.

Cheddar cheese

Mr John Gummer, Minister of State for Agriculture, is to look into the alleged shortage of milk available to makers of Cheddar cheese.

During Commons questions, Mr Brynne Jones, an Opposition spokesman on agriculture, asked: Why do cheese manufacturers complain that they cannot get enough milk to manufacture Cheddar cheese if we are running short of cheese?

Mr Gummer: There has been some complaint from some manufacturers. It is a matter for the Milk Marketing Board who decide where the milk should go. I am looking carefully at this.

Nutritional labelling being studied

FOOD

The Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food is looking at a format for the labelling of food to indicate its nutritional value, Mr Peggy Fenner, the Parliamentary Secretary, told the Commons at question time.

This would be in addition to a recent proposal by the Committee on the Medical Aspects of Food (Coma) for a statutory requirement to display the fat content of food.

Mr David Alton (Liverpool, Mosley Hill, L) said that if Mrs Fenner did not implement the findings of research conducted by her own ministry in conjunction with the National Consumer Council that clear labelling should be provided on canned food - particularly showing added levels of sugar and salt she would be open to the charge that the ministry was kowtowing to the manufacturers.

Mrs Fenner: We have already

accepted the report of the Coma and are looking at a survey to assess the needs of consumers in labelling. We are considering now all the comments made and we hope to bring proposals shortly.

Mr Simon Coombs (Swindon, C): In a recent market research survey 60 per cent of those responsible for food shopping said they considered the health aspects of food when deciding what to buy.

Mrs Fenner said there was a great deal of interest being taken by both manufacturers and consumers in the nutritional labelling of food. It was taken up by the ministry wanted it to be in a form which would help and not confuse consumers.

Coma (she added) recommended statutory labelling to which we responded and these proposals were made before the House. Coma did not recommend statutory nutritional labelling.

If we introduced that we might have some difficulty within the EEC because of distortion of trade.

Flameproof nightwear

SAFETY

The time had arrived when consumers' interests must be dominant and those of the trader subordinate to the safety of the individual, Lord Rennie of Dumfries, said when the Lords debated and approved the Nightwear (Safety) Regulation 1985.

Every year, and it might be the same this Christmas, he said, death and serious injury were caused by presents bought in good faith by people who were unaware that in certain conditions the purchases were flammable.

Other safety regulations on cosmetic products, pushchairs and asbestos products were agreed to.

How many will lose?

SOCIAL SECURITY

During Commons questioning, Mrs Thatcher, the Prime Minister, was unsuccessfully pressed by Opposition MPs to say how many losers there would be under the Government's social security review.

Mr Frank Dobson (Holford and St Pancras, Lab) recalling that on Tuesday the Prime Minister told the House that there had to be losers in the social security review, asked: How many will there be, who will they be and how much will they lose?

Mrs Thatcher: If we were to bring in the Labour Party's plans (Good Labour Interrupts) we reckon that National Insurance contributions on average earnings would

rise by 29 a week and some 20 million people would lose.

Mr Bryan Gould (Dagenham, Lab): Will she answer the question? How many losers will there be under the social security review and how much will they lose?

Mrs Thatcher: This Government has protected those in need. It has increased, over and above prices, the retirement pension, supplementary benefits for the sick and disabled. They have all risen by considerably more than inflation.

The social security review must be taken as a whole. It is fair to say that the Government's review of the working population. Under the arrangements of the Labour Party, there would be some 20 million of the working population who would stand to lose under National Insurance contributions increases.

All through the night

Another Sedgemore tirade against City

LLOYD'S

The Government was keeping a close watch on events at Lloyd's and would not hesitate to take action or legislate if necessary, Mrs Margaret Thatcher, the Prime Minister, said Thursday.

Commons questions when pressed for legislation by Dr David Owen, the Leader of the SDP.

Dr Owen said: In view of the widespread disquiet in the country and in the City about the situation affecting Lloyd's and in the light of what has happened to the chief executive, how does the Government justify not placing Lloyd's in the new market investment board which is being produced?

Will the Prime Minister not consider this issue again and the need for a full-time chairman of considerable independence and stature in order to supervise this aspect of the City's behaviour which many people feel present legislation is inadequate to cover?

Mrs Thatcher replied that Lloyd's had its own regulatory system and its own Act of Parliament. It was passed by this House - the Lloyd's Act 1982.

It is too early (she said) to pass judgement on the effectiveness of the new regime. We believe that events at Lloyd's on which publicity had been given, originated before the Act was passed.

Calls for investigations into the activities of Sir Peter Green, former chairman of Lloyd's, and Mr John Bickford Smith, a Senior Master at the Royal Courts of Justice, were earlier made in the Commons by Mr Brian Sedgemore (Hackney South and Shoreditch, Lab) during a debate on investigation into City fraud.

Wednesday's sitting lasted until 9.30am today when, after the Consolidated Fund Bill had gone through all stages, MPs spent the night discussing a variety of topics.

Mr Sedgemore resumed his attack on the City and Lloyd's in particular. How far did the power of Lloyd's stretch, he asked at one stage.

The Government spokesman, Mr Michael Howard, Under Secretary of State for Trade and Industry, said the Government did not consider the Financial Services Bill (being published later that day) was appropriate vehicle for the kind of legislation that might be thought necessary to amend the Lloyd's Act as it was designed for an entirely different purpose - setting up a regulator system to deal with investment business.

Mr Sedgemore said that since starting his inquiries into the Johnson Matthey Bank, Mr Abdul Shamji, whose companies owed the bankers £21 million, had tried to "buy" him during a meeting with an informant at the Pavillion Bar in Grosvenor Street.

Mr Shamji had a perfectly proper relationship with the Chairman of the Conservative Party, Mr Norman Tebbit, but when a member of the Opposition tried to warn that Mr Shamji was a blatantly dishonest person Mr Tebbit had lost his temper. The illustrated the kind of problem behind the investigation.

Good progress had been made towards exposing fraud, since passage of the 1982 Lloyd's Act put the regulatory system into place, although whether it was sufficiently effective it was too early to say.

Christmas campaign going over well

DRUNKEN DRIVING

During reports that the police were conducting random breath tests, figures showed up variations in certain areas.

Mrs Chalker replied there was no change in the law. The police had a duty to enforce the law and a defective with a vehicle to stop that vehicle. If the policeman found the driver smelling of alcohol or acting strangely he was perfectly within his rights to ask the driver to take a random breath test. There was no random breath testing, no chief constable had it, no one had.

The police were carrying on the law as agreed by Parliament.

Mr Shapcote asked why there seemed to be a number of discrepancies between the number of motorists breathalysed in a certain police area compared with an adjacent area.

We accept (he said) that chief constables have not authorised the instruction of random breath testing but she ought to say something about the Daily Express campaign.

They are attempting to produce evidence of random breath testing in certain parts of the country.

Mrs Chalker said a change was being noticed. Last year police officers because they were policemen picked lines, were more to enforce the law as they would have wished to do. Enforcement of the law properly had come as a surprise to people in certain parts of the country.

She had an evidence before her of variation but she would inquire about the matter from chief constables.

Live Aid cassettes despicable piracy

COPYRIGHT

Producing cassettes said to come from Indonesia, Mr Jeremy Hanley (Richmond and Barnes, C) told the Commons this morning that piracy of the Live Aid concert was nothing more than stealing from the starving.

Drawing attention to copyright infringement by piracy and bootlegging, Mr Hanley tabulated statistics of the consequent loss of world wide sales in audio and video tapes and cassettes, books, computer software, textiles, car parts, pills and other medicines.

He said that the Government should make clear to the Indonesian Government that piracy of any British work would no longer be tolerated and that unless reciprocal copyright was granted to UK works they must face the consequences.

Mr Geoffrey Finsbury, Minister for International Trade, said he had been asked to look into the production of bootlegged cassettes of the Live Aid concert and he looked forward to receiving those who had produced them. He said that, whatever the origin, must be bootlegged because

Somehow (he said), there is too close a relationship between the Conservative Party and the kind of people who are involved in the kind of things that go on in the City.

There was an unhealthy relationship and ministers did not appear to realise the dangers inherent in that.

Lloyd's claimed there had been no fraud at Lloyd's since the 1982 Act was passed, but that was another Lloyd's mirage; it was simply not true.

Sir Peter Green, he said, had been to see the Governor of the Bank of England about his tax affairs and had apparently been told to see an accountant. Sir Peter was a multi-millionaire and must have a gaggle of tax accountants at hand.

The Bank of England must be told that that kind of cover-up would not be tolerated. Sir Peter Green had serious problems and they should be made known. What that matter was got to the bottom of, no one would take any notice of protestations by Lloyd's that they had cleaned themselves up.

Mr J. Bickford Smith, he said, had taken over a case involving Lloyd's members, which had been set down for another Master, and it was then discovered that one of the defendants was Sir Peter Green. Mr Bickford Smith was also a freemason and other freemasons were involved in the case.

Mr Allan Rogers (Rhondda, Lab), opening the debate, said the scale and audacity of frauds in the City amounted to treachery because they were frauds against the ordinary, decent people of the country who created wealth and entrusted it to the financial institutions.

When questioned the previous day about the difference between fraud and market forces, Mr Nigel Lawson, the Chancellor of the Exchequer, had said that an MP who did not know that should not be in the House.

The answer the Chancellor gave (Mr Rogers said) shows he does not know the difference between fraud and free market forces. He does not know where one begins and the other finishes and he does not know the difference between fraud and inevitable greed as practised in the City of London.

What must be done (he said) is for the City to give a lead and purge itself and reestablish its reputation.

Mr Michael Howard, Under Secretary of State for Trade and Industry, said the Government had been taking serious steps to deal with fraud and market forces since the passage of the 1982 Lloyd's Act put the regulatory system into place, although whether it was sufficiently effective it was too early to say.

Mr Howard said the Government had been taking serious steps to deal with fraud and market forces since the passage of the 1982 Lloyd's Act put the regulatory system into place, although whether it was sufficiently effective it was too early to say.

Mr Howard said the Government had been taking serious steps to deal with fraud and market forces since the passage of the 1982 Lloyd's Act put the regulatory system into place, although whether it was sufficiently effective it was too early to say.

Mr Howard said the Government had been taking serious steps to deal with fraud and market forces since the passage of the 1982 Lloyd's Act put the regulatory system into place, although whether it was sufficiently effective it was too early to say.

Mr Howard said the Government had been taking serious steps to deal with fraud and market forces since the passage of the 1982 Lloyd's Act put the regulatory system into place, although whether it was sufficiently effective it was too early to say.

Some people are already celebrating a prosperous New Year.

For most people "a prosperous New Year" is just the last line on a Christmas card. But for thousands of our with-profits policyholders it will shortly be a reality. That's because favourable experience on investments has enabled us to declare record terminal bonuses on our policies.

On executive pension plans this bonus rate has gone from 30% up to 50% for a policy started in 1976, and to 70% on a policy in force since 1971.

Even bigger increases in terminal bonuses have been possible on maturing with-profits endowment policies. As an example, a 25-year endowment policy maturing in 1986 would have cost only £3,000 in premiums and yet will bring the policyholder a cash payment of £12,727.

And this boost to our pay-outs extends to self-employed pension plans and a whole range of other policies.

Terminal bonus rates can change at short notice, according to financial experience such as movements in stock markets. However, the current declaration shows just how well a GRE with-profits policy can perform.

To find out more about our policies, ask your financial adviser or return the coupon. And at some Christmas in the future, you may find you've given yourself the best present yet.

To: Guardian Royal Exchange, Field Operations Department, FREEPOST, London EC4A 4HY. (No stamp required).

Please send me full details of your Executive pensions ☐ Self-employed pensions ☐ Savings plans ☐ Mortgage plans ☐

Name

Address

Postcode



We were going to use this space to urge SGB shareholders to accept our offer, but we've decided we'd rather wish our own shareholders and employees a Happy Christmas and...

Financial Times, 19th July 1985

KEEPS ITS PROMISES

***an even
more
prosperous
New Year***

PS to Sparrow shareholders: If you haven't yet sent in your acceptance to our Sparrow bid, don't forget to send us a message before you go off for Christmas. Offer closes 27 Dec. 1985

25 years ago, Merrill Lynch began serving London.

Today we serve the wide world.

December marks the completion of 25 years of Merrill Lynch's presence in London.

It's a presence that reaches far beyond Britain. Our clients require access to all the world's major financial and investment markets, and we have built up a major world-wide organisation to serve those needs.

In Europe and the Middle East alone, we have 26 private client offices and five institutional offices. We provide private banking facilities in London and Geneva.

We are active in all major trading markets: in debt securities, money market

instruments, foreign exchange and international equities. Our European-based investment banking teams specialise in cross-border transactions. And our research is global in scope.

Merrill Lynch has made a major commitment to serving clients throughout Europe, the Middle East and the rest of the world. Our organisation provides a unique range of services to meet your needs in an increasingly complex world financial market.

A global market we know as well as our own neighbourhood.



Merrill Lynch

THE TIMES

FINANCE AND INDUSTRY
Executive Editor Kenneth FleetFinancial Services Bill
puts pressure on auditors

One of the key themes of the Financial Services Bill, published yesterday, is disclosure. The elaborate self-regulatory system which is proposed will come to naught if the raw information about malpractice is not capable of being uncovered on a regular and systematic basis.

That crucial assumption threatens to put the accountancy profession into the front line and will add to pressure which they are already undergoing in the banking arena in the wake of the Johnson Matthey Bankers affair.

So the Department of Trade and Industry has published a Green Paper setting out the future role of auditors in the brave new world it is ushering in. But if precedent is anything to go by, the omens are not hopeful that the accountants will suddenly leap to their feet to blow the whistle on their clients unless the law virtually forces them.

The Green Paper sets out the Government's view that confidentiality does not prevent disclosure to an appropriate authority where the public interest is involved. This would include cases of suspected fraud and "any breach of a statutory duty liable to cause significant harm to a third party".

Closer definition is to be left to the profession, in the spirit of self-regulation, but the Government does expect it to take a "positive view". The problem here is that accountants have been known to pass the buck, and they may do so once again. Already there is a movement building up for auditors to be given limited liability to cover cases of undetected fraud; a proposal which could well blunt an auditor's keen sense of purpose in this area.

Bank gloomy over pay -

The Bank of England is beginning to despair over pay. The December quarterly bulletin, published yesterday, contains the blunt warning that, barring an unexpected and big change in attitudes, excessive pay growth will prevent Britain from taking advantage of an improving world economic environment.

We have heard something of this from the Bank before. In fact, roughly once every three months. However, previous warnings have been accompanied by the hope that good sense will prevail, and the level of pay settlements tumble. This time, even with a forecast that the rate of inflation will halve to 3.5 per cent by the middle of next year, the Bank cannot offer any hope that the growth in earnings will slow in response.

In other countries, the Bank notes ruefully, prices and wages tend to follow one another quite closely. "UK wage behaviour is out of line with other countries," the Bank says, citing three years of average earnings growth of 7 per cent to 8 per cent a year, despite high and rising unemployment. The blame attaches to both sides of industry. The Bank chides the blimpish directors of British companies, 75 per cent of whom, in a recent

The profession has been given a second concession in the Green Paper. Auditors will attract qualified privilege against defamation in respect of their communications with authorities. Without this promise they could hardly be expected to fulfil their new role of part-time whistle blower.

Auditors have already accepted that they will have a role in reporting fraud and that the duty of confidentiality to clients can take second place to the fight against fraud.

Where the Institute of Chartered Accountants in England & Wales has been caught short is on the suggestion that in the field of financial services auditors co-operate closely with supervisors. That is with the Securities and Investment Board and others involved in regulation. The Scottish branch of the profession has pressed for auditors to be allowed to report evidence or suspicions of fraud to non-executive directors, and that all companies in the financial services sector should appoint at least two non-executives to the board. The Government does not go along with this.

It plans to put a new obligation on auditors in the form of a requirement not only to inform supervisors of anything they might need to know, such as an intention to qualify accounts, but also "a more general duty to co-operate with the supervisors". The Green Paper says there will be a provision to facilitate a two-way exchange of information.

As expressed in the consultative paper, this is too vague. It seems to give supervisors extraordinary powers and auditors wide and undefined responsibilities. Auditors are unlikely to accept this new obligation meekly.

survey, said that the pay settlements they had conceded were not too high.

The behaviour of companies has hardened attitudes in both the Bank and the Treasury. The bulletin says: "The relief offered to companies' financial positions has been pre-empted by domestic wage and cost increases." This includes such direct help as the abolition of the national insurance surcharge.

The Bank stresses the pressure put on monetary policy by continued strong growth in wages at a time of high unemployment. It is made clear, as the Chancellor has said, that the response to that potential dilemma of policy will be to keep interest rates and the exchange rate high.

The Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development, in the part of the *Economic Outlook* devoted to Britain, is no more optimistic. Its forecast is for an acceleration in real labour costs, putting a squeeze on profits next year. The response of companies, it predicts, will be to seek cost savings, notably on recruitment. Growth in employment in Britain, the OECD predicts, will therefore moderate, leaving the unemployment rate, on its definition, at 11.5 per cent, hardly better than the current 11.7 per cent rate.

Westland shareholders suffer
£98.7m loss for year

By Judith Hantley

Westland's shareholders, many of them small investors, learnt yesterday that they have suffered attributable losses of £98.7 million in the year to September 1985.

The chairman, Sir John Cuckney, said the company would have "been seriously near receivership" but for the £72.2 million rescue package put together by the Westland board involving Sikorsky, the American company, and Fiat, the Italian manufacturer.

The proposed reconstruction of the company involves Sikorsky and Fiat injecting £30 million into Westland in return for a 29.9 per cent stake. A further £19.1 million could be put in which would bring their shareholding to a maximum 35 per cent fully diluted. British shareholders would retain control with 50.1 per cent.

Westland's bankers, Barclays and National Westminster, have stepped in by agreeing to convert £28 million of debt into equity in preference shares for which they would own 14.9 per cent of the company. Shareholders are being asked to provide £14.2 million through a two-for-five rights issue at 60p a share. The issue was underwritten within hours by Lazards, Westland's merchant bank.

Shareholders have yet to approve the board's recommendation and will be asked to do so on January 14. Westland's board has rejected an offer from the European consortium of helicopter manufacturers supported by Mr Michael Heseltine, the Secretary of State of Defence.

The board argues that the Sikorsky/Fiat deal offers the best solution.

Sir John says that if a better offer is received it will be circulated to shareholders before January 14. But he said earlier approaches to the Europeans, who were well aware of Westland's problems, had been met by "a superb basket of rascals along the route."

The company is now pinning its hopes on the Black Hawk military helicopter which will replace the Sea Kings.

Westland's accountant, Ernst

& Whinney, has qualified the accounts revealing pre-tax losses of £95.3 million and the exceptional provision of £106.6 million, on the basis that the company is a going concern, dependent on the capital reconstruction to be approved by shareholders.

National Westminster Bank yesterday admitted that it was only reluctantly participating in the Westland deal, which would give it an equity stake in the company. "We do not usually take investments in our corporate clients because we do not like to," said Mr Alan Jones, an assistant general manager.

"We do not willingly switch customers' debt into equity but this is an important rescue."

NatWest is prepared to contribute £17 million in shares and banking facilities to the rescue.

Jobless fall
in OECD
'unlikely'By David Smith
Economics Correspondent

The world economy is in the longest period of disinflation since the Second World War, the Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development says in its twice-yearly *Economic Outlook* yesterday.

However, despite this and a decline in the risks attached to the prospects for continued world economic recovery, no decline in unemployment is projected.

Growth in OECD countries is forecast to average 2.5 per cent a year to mid-1987, with inflation steady at 4.5 per cent. Employment is projected to grow by 1 per cent over the next 18 months, but a rise in the labour force will leave the OECD unemployment rate unchanged at the present 8.25 per cent.

Current account imbalances are projected to reach a peak next year, with a \$146 billion (£102 billion) current account deficit for the United States, and surpluses of \$57 billion for Japan and \$20 billion for West Germany.

The drop in inflation during the present cycle has broken the pattern since the early 1960s, when each successive economic cycle has been characterized by a higher average inflation rate. As a result, says the OECD, there is room for countries to do more to secure growth in employment.

WORLD ECONOMIC OUTLOOK

	1986	1987
Growth (%)		
United States	2.75	2.5
Japan	3.5	3.25
Total OECD	2.75	2.5
Inflation		
United States	3.25	3.5
Japan	1.5	1.5
Total OECD	4.5	4.5
Current balance		
United States	-\$146bn	-\$147bn
Japan	+\$57bn	+\$57bn
Germany	+\$20bn	+\$18bn

Source: OECD Economic Outlook

Annual %

Tilbury offshoot

sold for £15m

The building group, Tilbury, is selling its East Anglian based gravel pit and road surfacing business for £15 million to Redland, its rival.

Tilbury plans to use the cash to wipe out its borrowings and make acquisitions, possibly to expand its housebuilding side.

The price is reflecting for its roadside business, which contributed to a third of profits last year, compares with a total value of £18 million for the whole of the group when the shares were suspended before the announcement.

Redland's finance director, Mr Robert Napier, admitted that it had considered launching a bid for the whole group and then spinning off the unprofitable parts. He said: "It was an option we looked at, but we wanted just that side of the business. We expect to make more money out of it than they have been making."

It made profits of £866,000 last year.



Leon Brittan unveiling the Financial Services Bill

Regulatory boards
to be merged

By Lawrence Lever

A tough new regulatory regime to protect the customers of investment businesses is outlined in an explanatory document jointly issued yesterday by the Securities and Investments Board and the Marketing of Investments Board Organising Committee.

At the same time the SIB and MIBOC announced they would be restructuring into a single body, with the aim of exercising the regulatory powers of the Designated Agency envisaged in the Financial Services Bill.

Introducing the document, Sir Kenneth Berrill, Chairman of the SIB, said that the new board would not accept any second rate self-regulatory bodies.

"We are seeking to ensure that the fraudulent, dishonest and the insolvent are excluded from the UK's financial markets," he said.

Sir Kenneth said that the size of the board, which will be financed by those subject to its regulation, would depend on the extent to which the systems it implements are utilized. It is, however, expected that not all members of MIBOC will be invited to join the board.

The document shows that the board is anxious to reduce the number of self-regulatory organizations to five.

It is engaged in discussion with seven SROs, including the International Securities Regulatory Organisation, which is seeking recognition for firms dealing in international securities and Eurobonds.

SIB and MIBOC are encouraging a merger between the Life and Unit Trust Intermediaries Regulatory Organisation (LUTIRO) and Naisdim, the Investment Management Regulatory Organisation (IMRO). It is also being encouraged to join forces with the Life Assurance and Unit Trust Regulatory Organisation (LAUTRO).

The document envisages that many firms will need to join several SROs to cover different aspects of their investment business. In such cases the "lead regulator" policy will be adopted whereby the SRO responsible for the larger part of the firm's business will assume sole responsibility for ensuring it complies with the board's capital adequacy requirements.

The document also outlined details of a compensation scheme, which would provide up to £30,000 compensation to investors in a failed business. At the same time, complaints procedures would be supplemented by the establishment of an industry ombudsman.

Mercury 'will undercut BT by 15%'

By Jeremy Warner, Business Correspondent

Telephone charges which undercut British Telecom tariffs by 15 to 20 per cent on national trunk calls were promised yesterday by Mercury Communications, the Cable and Wireless subsidiary licensed to compete with BT.

Mercury's 30 sales force has begun to circulate details of proposed tariffs offering much larger than expected discounts on BT prices.

BT plans to start its service early next summer with a figure of eight fibre optic network connecting Birmingham

with London and Bristol in the South and Leeds and Manchester in the North.

Mr Gordon Owen, Mercury's managing director, said the proposed tariff structure was different from BT's although BT rates on certain calls had been taken into account to demonstrate Mercury's price advantage.

He added: "We for instance, propose to better British Telecom's cheap BT rate between London and certain cities by extending the concession to cover calls from those cities

(back to London and between each other)."

International call charges will be set in the new year after Professor Bryan Carling, director-general of telecommunications has settled the dispute between Mercury and BT over negotiating reciprocal call rates with overseas telephone companies.

Mercury is expected to be able to offer similar discounts on international calls as on long-distance national calls.

DIY groups gear up for
shopping revolution

By Derek Harris, Industrial Editor

Marley's move this week in putting up for sale its Payless DIY subsidiary, the third largest chain in the field, comes as this still-growing market prepares for its biggest boost for years: the easing of Sunday trading laws.

New shop hours legislation is likely to be in place by June and it is the new generation of big edge-of-town DIY stores - often with garden centres attached - which is expected to benefit most from the changes.

Although Payless' profits have been rising steadily, Marley wants to sell because its strategy is to move out of retailing and concentrate on its manufacturing and marketing of building products like its roof and floor tiles.

Payless, after an aggressive store opening programme, now has 65 outlets, 54 of them at the edge of towns.

Marley says it already has had a number of inquiries about the Payless chain. There is speculation that the price could be

between £100 million and £130 million, although analysts point out that there have been a number of sales and leaseback deals on Payless properties.

With saturation point in edge-of-town stores expected in the trade to be reached by about 1990, many competitors are bound to look hard at the Payless proposition.

Most speculation has centred on Home Churn Group, which trades under the Texas banner and which is the second-largest DIY operator after B&Q, the Woolworth subsidiary. Mr Maury Fogel, Home Churn's chairman, dismisses as rumour that he has already made an offer.

If B&Q took over Payless, Woolworth could face monopoly problems. Some trade surveys suggest B&Q has 17 per cent of the DIY market and Woolworth itself at least another 8 per cent.

Home Churn is credited with a near 12 per cent and Payless 5.5 per cent, with several others running close.

IN BRIEF

Unit-trust record

Net sales of unit trusts last month were a record £361 million, an increase of 17.5 per cent on October net sales.

At the same time, the total value of funds under management at the end of November amounted to £19,858 million, another record and an increase of 36.9 per cent on the value of funds under management at the end of November 1984. Gross sales were also a record £541.8 million.

Mr Tony Smith, secretary of the Unit Trust Association, said yesterday that sales volumes reflected the increasing business generated by large insurance companies.

The increased value of funds under management was caused by the general rising trends in large stock markets, he said.

The November statistics include contributions from new unit trusts launched during the month.

NCB offer

The National Coal Board Pension Fund has declared its £164.5 million offer for Drayton Premier Investments Trust, a conditional offer after further share purchases in the market took its holding to 50.1 per cent. Yesterday's purchases were at the 521p offer price.

Sweet sell off

Ward White, the expanding retailing group, is to receive £7.5 million from the sale of the lost-making sweet manufacturing side of Maynards owner of the Zodiac toy shop chain, which it acquired last month for £19 million. Trebor is the buyer.

Mr Ian Irvine, the former managing director of Fleet Holdings, is to be chief executive of Octopus Publishing, at a salary of more than £100,000.

BAe agreement

British Aerospace and Hellenic Aerospace Industry have signed an agreement under which Hellenic will produce flap assemblies for BAe's ATP airliner. The deal could ultimately be worth 2.5 billion drachmas (£1.8 million).

Aspinal advance

Aspinal is paying a total dividend of 6p, against 3p, for the year to September 30, after pre-tax profits rose from £1.1 million to £15.6 million.

Temps, page 18

Marston increase

Marston, Thompson & Evershed is to pay an interim dividend of 0.7p (0.62p) after profits rose from £4.5 million to £5.1 million for the six months to September 30.

Temps, page 18

Clydesdale Bank is to withdraw from the Federation of Scottish Bank Employers, which negotiates pay and conditions of most bank staff in Scotland.

Grand Met up

Grand Metropolitan is to pay a final dividend of 6p, making a total of 10p for the year to September 30, up from 8.7p. Pre-tax profits rose from £334 million to £347 million.

Temps, page 11

Channel backing

Channel Expressway said that a further six banks had agreed to provide financial backing for its £2.5 billion road and rail fixed Channel link proposal.

Tesco director

Tesco, the supermarket chain, has appointed Miss Ditta O'Callaghan, a non-executive director, Miss O'Callaghan is managing director of milk marketing at the Milk Marketing Board and a non-executive director of Midland Bank. Tesco's previous woman director, Miss Daisy Hyams, retired in 1982.

SIA shares
drop after
take-offFrom Paul Routledge
Singapore

Shares of the newly privatized Singapore Airlines have made an unhappy debut on the republic's stock exchange.

After two days of trading, the "glamour counter" closed at S\$4.44 (£1.47) a fall of 26 cents on the day and substantially below the \$5 issue price. Selling by SIA stockholding employees was chiefly blamed.

The share's poor performance accelerated a decline in the market, which ended the day nearly 19 point down at 604.13 on the *Strait Times* industrial index.

This is more than 5 points below the three-year low recorded when the exchange resumed trading on December 3 after an unprecedented three-day shutdown connected with the receivership of Pan Electric.

The market gains of the past week have been more than wiped out, and brokers operating under tough new regulations fear that it has not yet reached bottom.

Dealers blame lack of buying from overseas and institutional investors for the failure of SIA shares to command and hold their \$5 issue price.

The performance of Singapore Airlines shares contrasts with the almost simultaneous issue of shares in the Malaysian Airline on the Kuala Lumpur exchange. MAS shares were issued at Malaysian \$1.80 (52p) have consistently traded at more than 52.

The SIA and MAS share issues are the biggest ever public issues on the two exchanges.

Some fund managers believe the timing of the Singapore Airlines issue was wrong because the market is depressed and the issue price was too high.

Frank Usher sold by
Selincourt for £3.2m

By Our City Staff

Mrs Jennifer d'Abo, whose company took over the fashionable group Selincourt last summer after a bitter battle, is selling Frank Usher, the cocktail and evening dress subsidiary, for £3.25 million.

The sale is partly because Frank Usher competes directly with another subsidiary, Parigi, and partly to raise money.

Stormgard, Mrs d'Abo's vehicle for buying Selincourt, is also raising £4.7 million net by a one-for-three rights issue.

Mrs d'Abo said: "We knew when we bought the company it needed money. We had to reduce the gearing. The company is now properly financed."

Write-downs of obsolete and

slow-moving stock have cost an exceptional £1.4 million and closure and reorganization costs at three divisions a further extraordinary £1.5 million.

The bottom line loss at Selincourt in the eight months to September 30 is £4.1 million against a six-month profit of £4.4 million to July 31, 1984.

Having thrown all the "horror" into the eight-month statement, Mrs d'Abo forecasts combined pre-tax profits for Stormgard and Selincourt of £700,000 in the 15 months to March 31.

Frank Usher has been sold back to its founders, Mr Max Bruh and his wife Anne, who sold it to Selincourt in 1962.

Write-downs of obsolete and

MARKET SUMMARY

STOCK MARKETS		MAIN PRICE CHANGES		CURRENCIES	
FT Ind Ord	1114.9 (+10.3)	RISES:		London:	
FT All Share	672.66 (+5.01)	Lyle Shipping	9p +0.50p	E: \$1.4222 (+0.0015)	
FT Govt Securities	82.70 (-0.21)	A & G Security	36p +2p	E: DM 3.5800 (+0.0050)	
FT-SE 100	1390.7 (+11.9)	Protimeter	36p +2p	E: Swf 3.0074 (+0.0009)	
Burgess	20.213	Carole Eng	271p +15p	E: Yen 10.9836 (+0.0370)	
Datasearch USM	104.71 (+0.18)	Edmond Poteries	130p +7p	E: Yen 288.57 (+0.32)	
Dow Jones	1542.77 (+0.34)	Edmond Holdings	10p +0.50p	E Index: 77.9 (-0.1)	
Tokyo		Equity & Law Life	243p +12p	New York (La test)	
Nikkei Dow	13115.03 (+12.89)	Bulgin (A.F.) "A"	10.50p +0.50p	E: \$1.4215	
Hong Kong		Debron Invests	42p +2p	E: DM 127.3 (-0.3)	
Hang Seng	1726.05 (-0.89)	Blanchards	106p +5p	ECU 0.611512	
Amsterdam	247.1 (+4.5)	Goldsmiths Group	172p +8p	SDR 0.782706	
Sydney: AC	986.9 (+0.6)	Unigroup	87p +4p		
Frankfurt		Pineapple Dance	87p +2p		
Commerzbank	1836.9 (-10.7)	Turner & Newall	49p +2p		
General	878.36 (+25.43)	Partridge Hidge	45p +2p		
Paris: CAC	251.0 (-0.1)	Tranwood Group	1150p +8p		
Zurich		Ferranti	144p +8p		
SIX General	487.20 (+0.40)	Kalamazoo	24p +1p		
		Unilever	1380p +55p		
		Concentric	61p +2.50p		
		Dupont			
		FALLS:			
		Freborg Connect	175p -10p		
		Stormgard	18.50p -1p		
		Speyhawk	285p -15p		
		Compass Heds	38p -2p		
		Hawthorn	15.75p -0.75p		

GOLD

London fixing: am \$323.40pm - \$325.80 close \$325.50-\$326.00 (£229.00-230.50)
New York: Comex \$325.85

WALL STREET

Fall in Dow continues

Prices opened lower in active trading of New York Stock Exchange issues yesterday.

The Dow Jones Industrial average, which fell 2.07 points to 1542.43 on Wednesday, was down 1.83 to 1540.58 shortly after the market opened.

Declines led advances by 491 to 293 among the 1,237 issues crossing the NYSE.

The market gave up more ground on Wednesday buffeted by profit taking and by trading strategies related to expiring December stock index futures and option contracts.

Mr. Harry Vilcek, of Sutor & Co in San Francisco, said: "After such a rapid advance people are going to lock in some of their profits". But he said weakness would be short lived.

"In a week, the market will be back into high gear," Mr. Vilcek said, head of the investment policy committee at First Albany, said: "It's nearing the end of the year and no money manager wants to be caught with a large cash position".

Baxter Travenol led the declines, down 14 to 14-1/2.

Texas was second up 1/2 to 30-1/2, on Wednesday Texas was a preliminary injection blocking enforcement of an \$11 billion award won by Pennzoil.

Union Carbide, fighting a takeover move by GAF Corporation was down one to 71-1/2.

After some unimpressive lurches recently, aluminum was quiet yesterday. But metals generally were suffering in London from the rot caused by the tin crisis.

Coffee was again the soft star. Renewed fears about the damage wrought by the Brazilian frost caused strong buying interest in the morning. This was carried over later in the day in New York.

Financials, oils and gold were fairly uneventful. Currencies failed to stir the markets much.

MEAT AND LIVESTOCK COMMISSION
Average futures prices in representative markets on December 19

GB Cattle, 97.50p per kg liv wt
GB Sheep, 174.50p per kg liv wt
GB Pigs, 61.50p per kg liv wt

LONDON METAL EXCHANGE
Official turnover figures

Prices in £ per tonne unless stated in pence per lb or pence per tonne

COPPER HIGH GRADE
Cash 100.00-100.50
Three months 100.00-100.50
Six months 100.00-100.50

STANDARD CATHODES
Three months 99.00-99.50
Six months 99.00-99.50
Twelve months 99.00-99.50

LEAD
Cash 100.00-100.50
Three months 100.00-100.50
Six months 100.00-100.50

ZINC STANDARD
Cash 100.00-100.50
Three months 100.00-100.50
Six months 100.00-100.50

ALUMINUM
Cash 100.00-100.50
Three months 100.00-100.50
Six months 100.00-100.50

LONDON FUTURE
Cattle, 97.50p per kg liv wt
Sheep, 174.50p per kg liv wt
Pigs, 61.50p per kg liv wt

BALTIMORE FUTURE
Cattle, 97.50p per kg liv wt
Sheep, 174.50p per kg liv wt
Pigs, 61.50p per kg liv wt

LONDON COMMODITY EXCHANGE
Cattle, 97.50p per kg liv wt
Sheep, 174.50p per kg liv wt
Pigs, 61.50p per kg liv wt

LONDON FUTURE
Cattle, 97.50p per kg liv wt
Sheep, 174.50p per kg liv wt
Pigs, 61.50p per kg liv wt

FOREIGN EXCHANGES

A quiet day's trading ended yesterday, the pound little changed over the previous close, at \$1.4222 (1.4207).

The pound's value against the mark was half a penny higher at 3.5800. Its trade-weighted index was off a touch at the close, at 77.9 (78.0).

Dealers said interest had mostly evaporated ahead of the holiday.

Few new factors had entered the market. Sterling was still upped by oil prices, despite relative stability on the Rotterdam spot market, but underpinned by high domestic interest rates.

Most of the day's business was restricted to tidying up positions. Sterling was helped by profit-taking after the recent declines against the dollar.

STERLING SPOT AND FORWARD RATES

Market rates close
Date December 19

New York 1.4222-1.4207
Amsterdam 1.4222-1.4207
Frankfurt 1.4222-1.4207
Paris 1.4222-1.4207
Geneva 1.4222-1.4207
Zurich 1.4222-1.4207
Basel 1.4222-1.4207
Bern 1.4222-1.4207
Brussels 1.4222-1.4207
Luxembourg 1.4222-1.4207
Madrid 1.4222-1.4207
Barcelona 1.4222-1.4207
Lisbon 1.4222-1.4207
Oporto 1.4222-1.4207
Rio de Janeiro 1.4222-1.4207
Sao Paulo 1.4222-1.4207
Buenos Aires 1.4222-1.4207
Bogota 1.4222-1.4207
Caracas 1.4222-1.4207
Cienfuegos 1.4222-1.4207
Havana 1.4222-1.4207
La Paz 1.4222-1.4207
Lima 1.4222-1.4207
Medan 1.4222-1.4207
Manila 1.4222-1.4207
Mexico City 1.4222-1.4207
Montevideo 1.4222-1.4207
Moscow 1.4222-1.4207
New Delhi 1.4222-1.4207
Rangoon 1.4222-1.4207
Singapore 1.4222-1.4207
Tehran 1.4222-1.4207
Tientsin 1.4222-1.4207
Yokohama 1.4222-1.4207

OTHER STERLING RATES

Argentina 1.4222-1.4207
Australia 1.4222-1.4207
Canada 1.4222-1.4207
Denmark 1.4222-1.4207
France 1.4222-1.4207
Germany 1.4222-1.4207
Greece 1.4222-1.4207
Hong Kong 1.4222-1.4207
India 1.4222-1.4207
Indonesia 1.4222-1.4207
Italy 1.4222-1.4207
Japan 1.4222-1.4207
Korea 1.4222-1.4207
Malaysia 1.4222-1.4207
Netherlands 1.4222-1.4207
Norway 1.4222-1.4207
Philippines 1.4222-1.4207
Portugal 1.4222-1.4207
Saudi Arabia 1.4222-1.4207
Singapore 1.4222-1.4207
South Africa 1.4222-1.4207
South Korea 1.4222-1.4207
Taiwan 1.4222-1.4207
Thailand 1.4222-1.4207
Turkey 1.4222-1.4207
United Arab Emirates 1.4222-1.4207
United Kingdom 1.4222-1.4207
United States 1.4222-1.4207

DOLLAR SPOT RATES

Argentina 1.4222-1.4207
Australia 1.4222-1.4207
Canada 1.4222-1.4207
Denmark 1.4222-1.4207
France 1.4222-1.4207
Germany 1.4222-1.4207
Greece 1.4222-1.4207
Hong Kong 1.4222-1.4207
India 1.4222-1.4207
Indonesia 1.4222-1.4207
Italy 1.4222-1.4207
Japan 1.4222-1.4207
Korea 1.4222-1.4207
Malaysia 1.4222-1.4207
Netherlands 1.4222-1.4207
Norway 1.4222-1.4207
Philippines 1.4222-1.4207
Portugal 1.4222-1.4207
Saudi Arabia 1.4222-1.4207
Singapore 1.4222-1.4207
South Africa 1.4222-1.4207
South Korea 1.4222-1.4207
Taiwan 1.4222-1.4207
Thailand 1.4222-1.4207
Turkey 1.4222-1.4207
United Arab Emirates 1.4222-1.4207
United Kingdom 1.4222-1.4207
United States 1.4222-1.4207

INVESTMENT TRUSTS

High Low Company Price Change % P/E

1985 1984 1983 1982 1981 1980 1979 1978 1977 1976 1975 1974 1973 1972 1971 1970 1969 1968 1967 1966 1965 1964 1963 1962 1961 1960 1959 1958 1957 1956 1955 1954 1953 1952 1951 1950 1949 1948 1947 1946 1945 1944 1943 1942 1941 1940 1939 1938 1937 1936 1935 1934 1933 1932 1931 1930 1929 1928 1927 1926 1925 1924 1923 1922 1921 1920 1919 1918 1917 1916 1915 1914 1913 1912 1911 1910 1909 1908 1907 1906 1905 1904 1903 1902 1901 1900 1899 1898 1897 1896 1895 1894 1893 1892 1891 1890 1889 1888 1887 1886 1885 1884 1883 1882 1881 1880 1879 1878 1877 1876 1875 1874 1873 1872 1871 1870 1869 1868 1867 1866 1865 1864 1863 1862 1861 1860 1859 1858 1857 1856 1855 1854 1853 1852 1851 1850 1849 1848 1847 1846 1845 1844 1843 1842 1841 1840 1839 1838 1837 1836 1835 1834 1833 1832 1831 1830 1829 1828 1827 1826 1825 1824 1823 1822 1821 1820 1819 1818 1817 1816 1815 1814 1813 1812 1811 1810 1809 1808 1807 1806 1805 1804 1803 1802 1801 1800 1799 1798 1797 1796 1795 1794 1793 1792 1791 1790 1789 1788 1787 1786 1785 1784 1783 1782 1781 1780 1779 1778 1777 1776 1775 1774 1773 1772 1771 1770 1769 1768 1767 1766 1765 1764 1763 1762 1761 1760 1759 1758 1757 1756 1755 1754 1753 1752 1751 1750 1749 1748 1747 1746 1745 1744 1743 1742 1741 1740 1739 1738 1737 1736 1735 1734 1733 1732 1731 1730 1729 1728 1727 1726 1725 1724 1723 1722 1721 1720 1719 1718 1717 1716 1715 1714 1713 1712 1711 1710 1709 1708 1707 1706 1705 1704 1703 1702 1701 1700 1699 1698 1697 1696 1695 1694 1693 1692 1691 1690 1689 1688 1687 1686 1685 1684 1683 1682 1681 1680 1679 1678 1677 1676 1675 1674 1673 1672 1671 1670 1669 1668 1667 1666 1665 1664 1663 1662 1661 1660 1659 1658 1657 1656 1655 1654 1653 1652 1651 1650 1649 1648 1647 1646 1645 1644 1643 1642 1641 1640 1639 1638 1637 1636 1635 1634 1633 1632 1631 1630 1629 1628 1627 1626 1625 1624 1623 1622 1621 1620 1619 1618 1617 1616 1615 1614 1613 1612 1611 1610 1609 1608 1607 1606 1605 1604 1603 1602 1601 1600 1599 1598 1597 1596 1595 1594 1593 1592 1591 1590 1589 1588 1587 1586 1585 1584 1583 1582 1581 1580 1579 1578 1577 1576 1575 1574 1573 1572 1571 1570 1569 1568 1567 1566 1565 1564 1563 1562 1561 1560 1559 1558 1557 1556 1555 1554 1553 1552 1551 1550 1549 1548 1547 1546 1545 1544 1543 1542 1541 1540 1539 1538 1537 1536 1535 1534 1533 1532 1531 1530 1529 1528 1527 1526 1525 1524 1523 1522 1521 1520 1519 1518 1517 1516 1515 1514 1513 1512 1511 1510 1509 1508 1507 1506 1505 1504 1503 1502 1501 1500 1499 1498 1497 1496 1495 1494 1493 1492 1491 1490 1489 1488 1487 1486 1485 1484 1483 1482 1481 1480 1479 1478 1477 1476 1475 1474 1473 1472 1471 1470 1469 1468 1467 1466 1465 1464 1463 1462 1461 1460 1459 1458 1457 1456 1455 1454 1453 1452 1451 1450 1449 1448 1447 1446 1445 1444 1443 1442 1441 1440 1439 1438 1437 1436 1435 1434 1433 1432 1431 1430 1429 1428 1427 1426 1425 1424 1423 1422 1421 1420 1419 1418 1417 1416 1415 1414 1413 1412 1411 1410 1409 1408 1407 1406 1405 1404 1403 1402 1401 1400 1399 1398 1397 1396 1395 1394 1393 1392 1391 1390 1389 1388 1387 1386 1385 1384 1383 1382 1381 1380 1379 1378 1377 1376 1375 1374 1373 1372 1371 1370 1369 1368 1367 1366 1365 1364 1363 1362 1361 1360 1359 1358 1357 1356 1355 1354 1353 1352 1351 1350 1349 1348 1347 1346 1345 1344 1343 1342 1341 1340 1339 1338 1337 1336 1335 1334 1333 1332 1331 1330 1329 1328 1327 1326 1325 1324 1323 1322 1321 1320 1319 1318 1317 1316 1315 1314 1313 1312 1311 1310 1309 1308 1307 1306 1305 1304 1303 1302 1301 1300 1299 1298 1297 1296 1295 1294 1293 1292 1291 1290 1289 1288 1287 1286 1285 1284 1283 1282 1281 1280 1279 1278 1277 1276 1275 1274 1273 1272 1271 1270 1269 1268 1267 1266 1265 1264 1263 1262 1261 1260 1259 1258 1257 1256 1255 1254 1253 1252 1251 1250 1249 1248 1247 1246 1245 1244 1243 1242 1241 1240 1239 1238 1237 1236 1235 1234 1233 1232 1231 1230 1229 1228 1227 1226 1225 1224 1223 1222 1221 1220 1219 1218 1217 1216 1215 1214 1213 1212 1211 1210 1209 1208 1207 1206 1205 1204 1203 1202 1201 1200 1199 1198 1197 1196 1195 1194 1193 1192 1191 1190 1189 1188 1187 1186 1185 1184 1183 1182 1181 1180 1179 1178 1177 1176 1175 1174 1173 1172 1171 1170 1169 1168 1167 1166 1165 1164 1163 1162 1161 1160 1159 1158 1157 1156 1155 1154 1153 1152 1151 1150 1149 1148 1147 1146 1145 1144 1143 1142 1141 1140 1139 1138 1137 1136 1135 1134 1133 1132 1131 1130 1129 1128 1127 1126 1125 1124 1123 1122 1121 1120 1119 1118 1117 1116 1115 1114 1113 1112 1111 1110 1109 1108 1107 1106 1105 1104 1103 1102 1101 1100 1099 1098 1097 1096 1095 1094 1093 1092 1091 1090 1089 1088 1087 1086 1085 1084 1083 1082 1081 1080 1079 1078 1077 1076 1075 1074 1073 1072 1071 1070 1069 1068 1067 1066 1065 1064 1063 1062 1061 1060 1059 1058 1057 1056 1055 1054 1053 1052 1051 1050 1049 1048 1047 1046 1045 1044 1043 1042 1041 1040 1039 1038 1037 1036 1035 1034 1033 1032 1031 1030 1029 1028 1027 1026 1025 1024 1023 1022 1021 1020 1019 1018 1017 1016 1015 1014 1013 1012 1011 1010 1009 1008 1007 1006 1005 1004 1003 1002 1001 1000 999 998 997 996 995 994 993 992 991 990 989 988 987 986 985 984 983 982 981 980 979 978 977 976 975 974 973 972 971 970 969 968 967 966 965 964 963 962 961 960 959 958 957 956 955 954 953 952 951 950 949 948 947 946 945 944 943 942 941 940 939 938 937 936 935 934 933 932 931 930 929 928 927 926 925 924 923 922 921 920 919 918 917 916 915 914 913 912 911 910 909 908 907 906 905 904 903 902 901 900 899 898 897 896 895 894 893 892 891 890 889 888 887 886 885 884 883 882 881 880 879 878 877 876 875 874 873 872 871 870 869 868 867 866 865 864 863 862 861 860 859 858 857 856 855 854 853 852 851 850 849 848 847 846 845 844 843 842 841 840 839 838 837 836 835 834 833 832 831 830 829 828 827 826 825 824 823 822 821 820 819 818 817 816 815 814 813 812 811 810 809 808 807 806 805 804 803 802 801 800 799 798 797 796 795 794 793 792 791 790 789 788 787 786 785 784 783 782 781 780 779 778 777 776 775 774 773 772 771 770 769 768 767 766 765 764 763 762 761 760 759 758 757 756 755 754 753 752 751 750 749 748 747 746 745 744 743 742 741 740 739 738 737 736 735 734 733 732 731 730 729 728 727 726 725 724 723 722 721 720 719 718 717 716 715 714 713 712 711 710 709 708 707 706 705 704 703 702 701 700 699 698 697 696 695 694 693 692 691 690 689 688 687 686 685 684 683 682 681 680 679 678 677 676 675 674 673 672 671 670 669 668 667 666 665 664 663 662 661 660 659 658 657 656 655 654 653 652 651 650 649 648 647 646 645 644 643 642 641 640 639 638 637 636 635 634 633 632 631 630 629 628 627 626 625 624 623 622 621 620 619 618 617 616 615 614 613 612 611 610 609 608 607 606 605 604 603 602 601 600 599 598 597 596 595 594 593 592 591 590 589 588 587 586 585 584 583 582 581 580 579 578 577 576 575 574 573 572 571 570 569 568 567 566 565 564 563 562 561 560 559 558 557 556 555 554 553 552 551 550 549 548 547 546 545 544 543 542 541 540 539 538 537 536 535 534 533 532 531 530 529 528 527 526 525 524 523 522 521 520 519 518 517 516 515 514 513 512 511 510 509 508 507 506 505 504 503 502 501 500 499 498 497 496 495 494 493 492 491 490 489 488 487 486 485 484 483 482 481 480 479 478 477 476 475 474 473 472 471 470 469 468 467 466 465 464 463 462 461 460 459 458 457 456 455 454 453 452 451 450 449 448 447 446 445 444 443 442 441 440 439 438 437 436 435 434 433 432 431 430 429 428 427 426 425 424 423 422 421 420 419 418 417 416 415 414 413 412 411 410 409 408 407 406 405 404 403 402 401 400 399 398 397 396 395 394 393 392 391 390 389 388 387 386 385 384 383 382 381 380 379 378 377 376 375 374 373 372 371 370 369 368 367 366 365 364 363 362 361 360 359 358 357 356 355 354 353 352 351 350 349 348 347 346 345 344 343 342 341 340 339 338 337 336 335 334 333 332 331 330 329 328 327 326 325 324 323 322 321 320 319 318 317 316 315 314 313 312 311 310 309 308 307 306 305 304 303 302 301 300 299 298 297 296 295 294 293 292 291 290 289 288 287 286 285 284 283 282 281 280 279 278 277 276 275 274 273 272 271 270 269 268 267 266 265 264 263 262 261 260 259 258 257 256 255 254 253 252 251 250 249 248 247 246 245 244 243 242 241 240 239 238 237 236 235 234 233 232 231 230 229 228 227 226 225 224 223 222 221 220 219 218 217 216 215 214 213 212 211 210 209 208 207 206 205 204 203 202 201 200 199 198 197 196 195 194 193 192 191 190 189 188 187 186 185 184 183 182 181 180 179 178 177 176 175 174 173 172 171 170 169 168 167 166 165 164 163 162 161 160 159 158 157 156 155 154 153 152 151 150 149 148 147 146 145 144 143 142 141 140 139 138 137 136 135 134 133 132 131 130 129 128 127 126 125 124 123 122 121 120 119 118 117 116

THE ARTS

Cinema

The sins Spielberg must answer for

Silverado (PG)

Leicester Square Theatre
(from January 3)King Solomon's Mines
(PG)Classic Haymarket;
Prince Charles

The Black Pirate (U)

ICA

Steven Spielberg has a lot to answer for, as a major shaper of late twentieth-century culture. To his credit he has, as producer, given the international folklore some fables - *E.T.* and *Back to the Future* - whose immense global success attests their potency. More questionably he has revealed the limitless riches to be earned by identifying and addressing a certain lowest common denominator of the audience - a public judged to be of lower teenage, of restricted intellectual and educational development, with powers of concentration more or less sufficient to see them through a three-picture strip-cartoon. Hollywood's most characteristic merchandise today is films of unremitting activity, dazzling with costly studio sets and special effects, assaulting with incident, and allowing no momentary vacuum to attract thought or reflection.

A Spielberg protégé, Lawrence Kasdan's commitment to the form proves a fatal handicap when he tries to vary and adapt it in *Silverado*. Kasdan was writer of *Raiders of the Lost Ark*, *The Empire Strikes Back* and *Return of the Jedi*, prototypes of the frenetic style. In *Silverado* he and his co-writer brother Mark sincerely want to do a traditional Western. It goes to the heart of the American spirit. It's a time when the country was untamed, full of potential, and it's something that Americans have held on to, these images. Themes of the Western don't change... Styles do, it seems. *Silverado's* pace is a lot

faster than most of the Westerns we grew up on. In a way it's like what we did when George Lucas and Steven Spielberg made *Raiders of the Lost Ark*. Things keep coming at you. The adventures come fast and furious.

Symptomatic of schizophrenia, *Silverado* thus turns out a hybrid. In principle the Kasdans pay homage to the tradition of the West as an arena for elemental drama of good against bad. They assemble a group of drifters trying to find a place in the new world of the 1800s (one is black: this is 1985) who chance into town and find themselves pitted against the corrupt sheriff and the evil clan that run the town. The film is about traditional themes of comradeship and loyalty, and touches also on kinship and family ("I think that's the result of writing it with my brother Mark").

Yet it never really comes to grips with its essential conflicts, themes, characters, the relation of the people to their physical world - for all the loving care with which that world is recreated (in Arizona and New Mexico). Everything moves too fast for thought or reflection. Almost before you can register any one of them, character succeeds character and we are already into the next wild fragment of action.

Where characters do impress themselves it is due more to the personalities of the players than development in the script. Scott Glenn and Kevin Kline are strongly defined, newcomers, Kevin Costner, playing Glenn's brother, revives the old-style, all-American, get-up-and-go energy and cheek of Douglas Fairbanks. Harold Lloyd or Mickey Mouse. Linda Hunt plays a diminutive saloon-keeper with a highly developed sense of personal dignity and loyalty. (Hunt expressively says of her long road to late success: "I took the crumbs, and found deep nourishment in them.") Jeff Goldblum, however, as a gambler, remains quite enigmatic. The film is made up of debits and credits, but mostly enjoyable.

King Solomon's Mines is imitation Spielberg frenetic at its most wretched, assuming in the viewer hardly enough concentration to carry him from one picture in a strip-

Kevin Costner (without hat): old-style all-American energy in *Silverado*

cartoon to the next. The mystery about the enterprise is the title: apart from a mine and a character called Allan Quartermain, it has nothing at all to do with Rider Haggard. The action seems to take place in the First World War, though costumes and artefacts are without any clear period identity. Quartermain is an American adventurer hired by an obstreperous young woman to rescue her father from the fiendish Hun, who wants the secret of the mine from him. There are also turks, cannibals, lions, snakes and mechanical grotesques borrowed directly from *Indiana Jones*.

Mostly the dialogue consists of "Aah-ooooo!" "You must be kidding" and "We meet at last"; and, though Rider Haggard wrote a lot about Egypt, I do not recall his characters addressing the natives as "camel jockey" and "towel-headed creep". There cannot though have been much in the script except for stage directions about running about, firing guns and falling on and off or crashing trains, cars and aeroplanes.

It is not likely to do much for the literary understanding of the young. As to other sensibilities, it might

convince them that guns, bombs, torture, war, greed and violent death are the stuff of comedy. In fact the distributors had packed the press show evinced little appreciation, but were rather restive. Perhaps they were disappointed with the special effects: not even the most unsophisticated audience is likely to be convinced by the crude back-projection of the "aerial" sequences. The film was directed by the veteran Englishman J. Lee Thompson, who at 71 ought to know better.

Parents with some respect for their children's intelligence would be wiser to take them to the ICA to see how well they told stories sixty years ago, when Douglas Fairbanks made *The Black Pirate* and films beguiled audiences rather than assaulting them like scatter-guns. *The Black Pirate* was one of the earliest films shot in the attractive two-colour Technicolor process and has been carefully restored by the National Film Archive.

The galleons designed by the Swedish artist Karl Oscar Borg evoke a whole lost world of adventure; and Fairbanks's mixture of athleticism,

check, comedy and grace is at its most appealing in the role of avenging hero. The film is shorter and faster than Fairbanks's other costume spectacles, but contains two of his most memorable stunts. His slide down a great mainsail, apparently supported only by the point of a dagger as it shears the sheet, has since been several times imitated; his rescue from the hold of a ship by men who pass him up the hatch so that he seems to fly upwards like a bullet in a gun-barrel is more like an invention of Busby Berkeley.

On Christmas Day Fairbanks's *The Thief of Baghdad*, with Carl Davis's musical score, can be seen on Channel 4. Dating from 1924, this is still one of the most visually beautiful films ever made. William Cameron Menzies's design, as photographed by Arthur Edson, is like Dulac given movement in three dimensions; and the magic - the Cave of Wonders, the Magic Carpet, or the battle between the diminutive figure of Fairbanks's Thief and the giant Dragon - in every respect outclasses the electronic special effects of Spielberg and 1985.

David Robinson

Theatre

Reservation view of the Indians' ordeal

Melons

The Pit

Beyond the fact that it is set in a New Mexico melon patch and opens with the ceremony of laying down a circle of fruit, I was puzzled by the title of Bernard Pomerance's play until I saw its programme definition as "a traditional conclusion to certain Apache stories, designed to appease or deceive spirits described in the stories who might possibly be offended".

Melons is a fable of the rape of Indian America, written by a white playwright who has done everything he can to get inside the mind of the Red Man. It has something in common with Brian Friel's *Translations*, as another study of internal colonialism, exhibiting a superior culture being vanquished by superior force, and the contradictory ways in which the two sides view the same cycle of events.

Friel, however, chose the language of the invaders as the best means of evoking what they destroyed. Mr Pomerance chooses the harder and more hazardous method of writing as if for an Indian reservation audience. Except in a couple of superbly written scenes for whites alone, the prevailing idiom is that of the Indians, measured cadences, and again, you have to consult the

programme to discover that words like "savage" or "anthropologist" (one who knows too much about the tribe) are being used in a special sense.

In summarizing the plot, it is tempting to say that it focuses on a 1906 reunion between two former combatants of the Apache wars - an aged Apache leader and a former cavalry major. That, however, is to look at the play as a white observer expecting to get his beginning, middle and end. As the circle of melons implies, that is not Mr Pomerance's style of operation.

What he is offering is a collection of stories, in which past coexists with present, and experiences in the spirit land have as much reality as those on earth.

The basic situation is clear enough. Caracol (the Apache) has escaped from Arizona to a reservation in New Mexico, where he enjoys the status (to fall into white terminology) of a messiah. Stolsky (the former cavalry major) now works for an oil company and requires Caracol's cooperation in allowing the firm's geologists to survey the territory.

Instead of proceeding in a straight line towards an inescapably tragic outcome, the action undergoes labyrinthine contortions, as Caracol embarks on prolonged speeches evoking the massacre of his family and his reunion with them beyond the grave; and events loop into flashbacks and double-flash-



Ben Kingsley's amazing act of transformation

backs, all prefiguring the present encounter, but breaking the chronological thread and your recollection of why and for whom the re-enactments began in the first place.

The scene where Stolsky meets his brother, now a local marshal (John Cater), and reduces this fire-breathing white-supremacist to tears of humiliation, rage for having offended the tribe, is a wonderful piece of writing, but it seems like an extract from another and, perhaps Mr Pomerance would say, a much simpler kind of play.

The heart of the piece lies in the varying and defeated attempts of the surrounding characters to make contact with the implacable Apache. Stolsky, in spite of his condescension, makes some headway as a respected adversary who knows the tribe of old. So too

does Montezuma (Anton Lesser), an Indian civil rights activist, who tries to capitalize on the messianic prophecy by persuading Caracol to re-negotiate a crooked land lease and channel the profit into Indian schools and hospitals.

Both of them hit a rock. To Caracol, white language and white law are intrinsically mendacious even when used for his people's advantage. And he solves the dilemma in his own way by hanging the geologists from a tree, donning a mask, and decapitating them.

Ben Kingsley's performance as Caracol is an amazing act of transformation. Hardly made up, apart from a snow-white wig, he presents a figure at once as frail as a leaf and immovable as a rock; slowing down the surrounding dialogue to his own resonantly impassive delivery, and radiating ceremonial dignity even when accepting a cigarette.

He is partnered by David Burke as a burly Hemingwayesque old timer, who shows his real force in the act of subduing his red-neck sibling. The production, despite its narrative entanglements, is a notable RSC debut for Alison Sutcliffe.

Irving Wardle

Stinkfoot

Old Profanity
Showboat, Bristol

Nobody would expect a musical for Christmas by Vivian Stanshall to be anything but bizarre and original. Ringmaster of the Bonzo Dog Band and creator of *Rawlinswood*, that saga of aristocratic lunacy where the family motto is "to come to the end of the world and back", Stanshall is followed by billiards on horseback or catching the javelin. Stanshall has now written and directed an extraordinary comic opera for his floating theatre in the Bristol Docks.

On board this former coaster, *Stinkfoot* is a wistfully aquatic show. It is a watery tale set alternately at the end of a seaside pier and under the ocean, peopled by an Angli-ridden music hall artiste, his Faustian apprentice, a tomat under the influence of James Cagney (Stinkfoot himself), a Mae Westian glamour-puss (Persian Moll) and an oracular ventriloquist's dummy, Screw.

Richard Gilbert

Cosi fan tutte
Dominion

There currently seems to be a voluble lobby which maintains that what the opera public wants is straightforward stagings, shorn of all "producer's quirks". If that is the case there ought to be queues down Tottenham Court Road tomorrow night for the second London performance of Welsh National Opera's *Cosi fan tutte*.

For Liviu Ciulei's production is pretty to the eye, completely worked and almost completely lacking in pretension. The only mild eccentricities were the two cardboard clippers which raced across a cardboard horizon in Act I as though competing for something at Cowes. And cut-outs are not exactly unknown on the opera stage.

But, as Paul Griffiths observed in his review (November 11) of the Cardiff performance, there is rather a dichotomy between this politic staging and György Fischer's music direction, a contrast which one suspects has been heightened by the Dominion's boxy acoustics and its lack of a proper pit. Fischer drives the accompaniment very hard, bringing plenty of interesting instrumental detail into unaccustomed prominence and in general obtaining a grainy vitality from the orchestra, but in the process he builds a formidable barrage of sound.

It was not simply that the orchestra was too loud for its mainly young cast. Fischer also seemed to be phrasing orchestally, not in sympathy with his singers' breathing. To this can be attributed the numerous small but distracting lapses in rapport between pit and stage. Judged in this context the performances on stage were satisfactory, though no one consistently produced sustained tonal beauty. Elaine Woods as Fiordiligi came nearest her top notes have a fresh, direct appeal, but the low register is weak and her one attempted glissando from top to bottom

Under the waves there is more derring-do from a cynical flounder, a giant squid and a partly cooked shrimp. The cast of local singers, fringe actors and musicians seems to have absorbed the complexities of the highly moral plot where regeneration triumphs over evil and all optimists ultimately defeat the pessimists. The story-line is less important than the ambitious and resonant songs and music.

Nikki B., who plays Persian Moll, has a striding blues voice and a stage presence that belies her real-life job as a hairdresser. The soul-singer Pete Coggins is a convincingly lugubrious flounder and Steve Howe's Stinkfoot is a easy tomat.

The length of the Old

Profanity boat is cunningly

exploited by the marine set; but *Stinkfoot* (with some judicious cuts) deserves to be seen in London on dry land at a larger venue. Vivian Stanshall seems at last to have escaped from the Sixties surrealism that in the past has made his work too self-indulgent.

Richard Morrison

Opera

was far too ambitious. Laurence Dale's Ferrando rose to a presentable "Un' aura amorosa" but ran out of steam above the stage soon afterwards.

There was an impressively acted Cuglielmo from Mark Holland, including several quite spectacular falls to the ground, but his lyrical baritone as yet lacks the punch to match such macho antics. A similar problem marked Andrea Bolton's unusually earthy Desdemona: the voice so far cannot supply the cutting edge the soprano often needs. But two more experienced performers, Thomas Hemsley and Delia Wallis, turned in dependable characterizations of Don Alfonso and Donabella.

Richard Morrison

Television
Delightful fable

The odds against the occurrence of a modern Christmas fable which is both charming and anti-sentimental are overwhelming. Christmas Present (Channel 4), a film by Tony Bicat, beat them triumphantly.

It was a scenario with more ingredients than a plum pudding. The central story concerned an obnoxious, overprivileged City whizz-kid bound by a potty tradition of his bank to award a turkey and some money to a selected specimen of the deserving poor - failure to comply would end his career. It was a delightful performance by Peter Chelsom, who appeared reptilian but capable of redemption as he lost the address of the appointed paupers and began a desperate struggle to meet his deadline.

The film was spiced with Dickensian allusions, and enlivened by fantasy sequences as the characters dreamed their private visions of happiness. The figures of Mary and Joseph, in biblical dress, also wandered through the London landscape but were less effective in probing the spirit of the season.

A great deal of misery and deprivation was woven into the narrative. The young banker's quest led him to a concrete slum inhabited by a paranoid recluse, a glue-sniffing child and an abandoned mother-to-be.

The wretchedness of these characters, and of the Pakistani family, who finally refused delivery of the banker's bounty because they mistakenly assumed he had come to disconnect the gas, was portrayed powerfully but without condescension. Each conveyed a full measure of humanity and displayed dignity in suffering.

Similarly all the familiar but unpalatable phenomena of Christmas have a place in the story - the parishness of Oxford Street, the gross materialism of children, the relentless assaults of charity workers on any passing conscience. The conclusion was optimistic without being saccharine and, given that Christmas programmes like the glass baubles tend to be brought out every year, it will be a pleasure to see this one again.

Celia Brayfield

Concert
Baroque fireworksEnglish Concert/
PincockQueen Elizabeth Hall/
Radio 3

The English Concert's players have come a long way. As with all who bravely took to the notion of playing baroque instruments in the appropriate style in the 1970s they were once regarded by doubters as amiable cranks. Now they find themselves performing in a Royal Philharmonic Society concert, with Beechoven's bust casting an approving eye upon them in recognition of their achievements.

Such recognition is only just. For Trevor Pincock's concert, and records with this band could be relied upon for delivering a good measure of excitement, and never for the wrong reasons. Yet for most of this concert I was left wondering if the band had perhaps become a little complacent. Nothing horrendous happened, but in that very fact lay the problem. Too often it seemed that the whole exercise was one of regurgitating what had already occurred in the sterility of a recording studio. Put simply, the playing was too good, the music - or most of it - no longer challenging enough.

One exception, though, was Handel's *Music for the Royal Fireworks*, which Pincock directed without his usual harshearth and without score or baton either, for that matter. If in the overture the timpanist seemed to want to make his instruments sound like firecrackers, that was fair

enough, especially when he was complemented by such splendid noises as those made here by the trumpets, horns and half-dozen oboes. And in the Bourée we were treated to something of Pincock's usual youthful vitality, the music touched by imagination as well as rhythmic bite. For the final *Musette* he made the beat deliberately heavy, a consciously individualistic touch that worked wonders in creating a sense of moment and nobility. Thus, you might say, the music lived.

Two more works by Handel also made for engrossing listening, though for slightly different reasons. The Third Oboe Concerto was graced by some superlative playing from David Reichenberg, whose sound had a richness to it of a quality I have not previously encountered, even if there could have been a little contrast between soft and loud dynamics. And then there was the *Pastorale*, Gigue and Minuet culled from a late version of *Il pastor fido*, whose intrigue was rooted in its unfamiliarity. Pincock gave the work plenty of impetus and grace and enjoyed its contrast of scoring, but here one could detect that disquieting feeling of something being done almost automatically.

As one could, indeed, in William Boyce's Fourth Symphony, a work which strikes me as pretty ordinary anyway, and in J. C. Bach D major Symphony, Op 18 No 4. And while J. S. Bach's Third Orchestral Suite was expertly done, of course, it is not - and was not - as if it had never been done before.

Stephen Pettitt

NINETEEN
"A film of artistry and originality...superbly played" Daily Telegraph

"Not to be missed" "Triumphant" New Statesman

PAUL SCOFIELD
FRANK FINLAY
CLARE HIGGINS
COLIN FIRTH
MARGARET RUSSELL
MICHAEL WATKINS
Directed by RUGER BROYD

Now at the CURZON MAYFAIR
Curzon Street, London W1. Tel: 01-493 3272. Film at 2.00pm (incl. S&S), 4.15, 6.25, 8.45
Seeds of ELOH lookable in advance for 6.50 per seat, daily

AS YOU LIKE IT
AN EVENING TO DELIGHT THE HEART
RSC
BARBICAN 01-628 8795 / 638 8891

Royal Ballet
Les Patineurs
Petrushka
Coppelia
The Wand of Youth
Flowers of the Forest
SADLER'S WELLS THEATRE
31 DEC 1985 - 11 JAN 1986

Sea Finland
An exhibition about an historic nation that will amaze, excite, educate and entertain
40-41, 43-44, 46-47, 49-50, 52-53, 55-56, 58-59, 61-62, 64-65, 67-68, 70-71, 73-74, 76-77, 79-80, 82-83, 85-86, 88-89, 91-92, 94-95, 97-98, 100-101, 103-104, 106-107, 109-110, 112-113, 115-116, 118-119, 121-122, 124-125, 127-128, 130-131, 133-134, 136-137, 139-140, 142-143, 145-146, 148-149, 151-152, 154-155, 157-158, 160-161, 163-164, 166-167, 169-170, 172-173, 175-176, 178-179, 181-182, 184-185, 187-188, 190-191, 193-194, 196-197, 199-200, 202-203, 205-206, 208-209, 211-212, 214-215, 217-218, 220-221, 223-224, 226-227, 229-230, 232-233, 235-236, 238-239, 241-242, 244-245, 247-248, 250-251, 253-254, 256-257, 259-260, 262-263, 265-266, 268-269, 271-272, 274-275, 277-278, 280-281, 283-284, 286-287, 289-290, 292-293, 295-296, 298-299, 301-302, 304-305, 307-308, 310-311, 313-314, 316-317, 319-320, 322-323, 325-326, 328-329, 331-332, 334-335, 337-338, 340-341, 343-344, 346-347, 349-350, 352-353, 355-356, 358-359, 361-362, 364-365, 367-368, 370-371, 373-374, 376-377, 379-380, 382-383, 385-386, 388-389, 391-392, 394-395, 397-398, 400-401, 403-404, 406-407, 409-410, 412-413, 415-416, 418-419, 421-422, 424-425, 427-428, 430-431, 433-434, 436-437, 439-440, 442-443, 445-446, 448-449, 451-452, 454-455, 457-458, 460-461, 463-464, 466-467, 469-470, 472-473, 475-476, 478-479, 481-482, 484-485, 487-488, 490-491, 493-494, 496-497, 499-500, 502-503, 505-506, 508-509, 511-512, 514-515, 517-518, 520-521, 523-524, 526-527, 529-530, 532-533, 535-536, 538-539, 541-542, 544-545, 547-548, 550-551, 553-554, 556-557, 559-560, 562-563, 565-566, 568-569, 571-572, 574-575, 577-578, 580-581, 583-584, 586-587, 589-590, 592-593, 595-596, 598-599, 601-602, 604-605, 607-608, 610-611, 613-614, 616-617, 619-620, 622-623, 625-626, 628-629, 631-632, 634-635, 637-638, 640-641, 643-644, 646-647, 649-650, 652-653, 655-656, 658-659, 661-662, 664-665, 667-668, 670-671, 673-674, 676-677, 679-680, 682-683, 685-686, 688-689, 691-692, 694-695, 697-698, 700-701, 703-704, 706-707, 709-710, 712-713, 715-716, 718-719, 721-722, 724-725, 727-728, 730-731, 733-734, 736-737, 739-740, 742-743, 745-746, 748-749, 751-752, 754-755, 757-758, 760-761, 763-764, 766-767, 769-770, 772-773, 775-776, 778-779, 781-782, 784-785, 787-788, 790-791, 793-794, 796-797, 799-800, 802-803, 805-806, 808-809, 811-812, 814-815, 817-818, 820-821, 823-824, 826-827, 829-830, 832-833, 835-836, 838-839, 841-842, 844-845, 847-848, 850-851, 853-854, 856-857, 859-860, 862-863, 865-866, 868-869, 871-872, 874-875, 877-878, 880-881, 883-884, 886-887, 889-890, 892-893, 895-896, 898-899, 901-902, 904-905, 907-908, 910-911, 913-914, 916-917, 919-920, 922-923, 925-926, 928-929, 931-932, 934-935, 937-938, 940-941, 943-944, 946-947, 949-950, 952-953, 955-956, 958-959, 961-962, 964-965, 967-968, 970-971, 973-974, 976-977, 979-980, 982-983, 985-986, 988-989, 991-992, 994-995, 997-998, 1000-1001

DOUGLAS FAIRBANKS
SWASHBUCKLING
THE BLACK PIRATE
EXCLUSIVE PRESENTATION
ICA CINEMA
THE MALL, SW1 920 3647
12.30, 2.30, 4.30, 6.30, 8.30, 10.30

LONDON ARTS CHOICE
CHOICE LONDON ARTS
CHOICE LONDON ARTS
CHOICE LONDON ARTS

NUTCRACKER
NOW BOOKINGS
DAVID WOODS THE OVERSEAS MAN
28 Dec 11.45, 1.15 and 2.30pm
All seats less than £4.50, 6.50, 8.50, 10.50
The perfect children's play "10"

PLAYING THE RIGHT TUNE
SHAW
01-307 8200
Until 4 Jan 2.30pm and 7.30pm (65)
MATTHEW KELLY
(in partnership with Shaw and Shaw)

LASER MAGIC
BRIGHTFORD WATERLOO ARTS CENTRE
40 Bedford Way, N. Bedford, N. 1
Until 12 Jan

Food & Drink available. Food Car Park
Also see FREE PLYMOUTH and Food Car Park
TICKETS: 01-307 8200, 01-307 8201

LONDON FESTIVAL BALLET
Artistic Director Peter Schaufuss
Cast includes international stars.

NUTCRACKER
GLC ROYAL FESTIVAL HALL
26 December - 15 January
Evenings 7.30pm
Matinees 2.00pm
Dec 27 - Jan 4 and Jan 11
Seat Prices £3.50 - £12.50
Box Office 01 928 3381
Credit Cards 01 928 8800



P.O. Box 7, 200 Gray's Inn Road, London WC1X 8EZ. Telephone: 01-837 1234

SENSE FOR THE CITY

The Financial Services Bill which was published yesterday is the logical culmination of a process started in 1981, when a committee was set up to review investor protection after scandals involving uncontrolled new forms of investment. The scheme of regulation it sets up is the better for that long and careful evolution. It is not an instant response to the latest revelations about Johnson Matthey Bankers or Lloyd's, which are covered by separate legislation. Nor is it primarily aimed at improving the prosecution of fraud, which vital task is likely to be tackled by a new Criminal Justice Bill in the next session of Parliament.

Its main purpose is to increase protection for investors by ensuring that anyone from doorstep life assurance salesman to City commodity broker is subject to regulation and obliged to operate according to rules that will be fair to investors. Because of the Bill's timing, just ahead of sweeping changes in the structure of the Stock Exchange to promote competition in securities dealing, it particularly aims to protect investors from new conflicts of interest that will come from the breaking down of traditional barriers.

The present hue and cry over fraud has inevitably affected the way the Bill will be judged. So has distrust of the arrogance of finance at a time when the City is enjoying a boom absent from parts of manufacturing industry. Aside from the exemption of Lloyd's, the Bill stands up remarkably well to new circumstances and this harsher scrutiny. The system would probably, for instance, have coped both with the problems at Lloyd's and those at the London Metal Exchange, had it applied. That in itself is a reason for confidence, since its recommendations are in essence those developed several years ago.

The basis of that system is self-regulation with the additional protection that self-regulating organizations (SRO's) like the Stock Exchange are under the

continuous supervision of a permanent board. That is the vital difference between the system now proposed and that set up by the Lloyd's Act of 1982 and found so conspicuously wanting.

The supervising board is to set model rules for the SRO's aimed at raising standards in different businesses to the highest common factor and enforcing a series of common principles that are fully laid down in the legislation. The most important of these fair-dealing principles is that of disclosure.

Providing investors with the maximum amount of information, whether on life assurance commissions or bond prices, is the greatest safeguard that does not destroy the benefits of competition.

The success of the system will depend, to a large degree, on the will and power of this supervisory board to take the customer's side in its dealings with the SRO's. The Bill gives it considerable power, not just to authorize self-regulation in each trade, but also to ask the courts to impose rules where necessary. If the board uses its powers to protect the customer, the structure may well prove, as ministers claim, to be both strong and flexible.

There are a number of misjudgements in the Bill. The exclusion of Lloyd's, which would plainly benefit from continuous supervision, is one of them. If, as it appears, it would be too complex to include Lloyd's in the Bill, then the Trade Secretary, Mr. Leon Brittan, should give an early pledge to amend the Lloyd's Act to this end. It would also be better to include the City Takeover Panel in the supervisory system to help it bear the greater strains likely to be imposed on it by increased competition in the City. The system of three-man appeal tribunals envisaged to vet decisions of the supervisors looks ill thought out, and may tend to undermine the authority of the regulators. The clause seeking discretionary powers to ban firms from countries that do not

have such an open financial system as Britain looks no more than a sneaky piece of discriminatory protectionism that surely has no place in this Bill.

For all the easy charges of cosiness levelled at self-regulation the argument over the basic structure is likely to be remarkably narrow. The Opposition's demand for statutory control amounts in practice to little more than a desire for a supervisory board that is less dominated by practitioners and a feeling that more breaches of the rules should be made criminal offences. The first point can easily be met in the selections made by successive Secretaries of State. There is more substance in the second. The Bill relies principally on making it criminal to trade without authorization, the ultimate punishment of self-regulation. That could be strengthened by putting the power to fine miscreants into the system. Experience does not suggest, however, that making malpractice a crime is an effective way of stamping it out. The Insider Trading laws, for instance, have proved so ineffective that the measures now being taken to enforce them have an air of desperation.

The threat of wider criminal sanctions if the system fails will undoubtedly strengthen the regulator's hand. But it should not be pushed too far at this stage. With the exception of dealings on the Stock Exchange (which has a good record but now faces stiff new pressures) the Bill will greatly improve safeguards for investors, without the heavy-handed regulation that would kill London's future as an international financial centre.

In practice, the system will undoubtedly be found fallible under some of the new pressures it will have to withstand. But that is an inevitable by-product of the tension between regulation for fair dealing on the one hand and freer competition for efficiency and lower costs on the other.

The threat of wider criminal sanctions if the system fails will undoubtedly strengthen the regulator's hand. But it should not be pushed too far at this stage. With the exception of dealings on the Stock Exchange (which has a good record but now faces stiff new pressures) the Bill will greatly improve safeguards for investors, without the heavy-handed regulation that would kill London's future as an international financial centre.

TALKS ABOUT TESTS

The latest Soviet initiative over a comprehensive test ban (CTB) is the latest in a series of peace and good will messages from Moscow which are not quite unblemished by self-interest. The well-timed hint that the Soviet Union might now be prepared to countenance on-site inspection of its underground nuclear test sites remains, however, an offer of some significance. It has come just after the announcement of an East-West accord at the United Nations to co-operate in the long war against international terrorism, something which the United States ambassador to the UN Mr. Vernon Walters (no sofie in these matters) has described as a historic step, almost without precedent in the 40-year history of the UN. Together they reflect, at least, a fresh approach to foreign affairs at the Kremlin.

The suggestion that reciprocal on-site facilities might now be possible after a series of Russian nudges over a possible CTB this year - particularly the moratorium

on its own testing programme, which it now says it might extend beyond the expiry date on January 1. It still has to be enshrined within a formal proposal at the Geneva talks when these reopen next month after the recess. But it comes after one or two not dissimilar hints in recent years that the Russians might now accept on-site inspection in other areas of arms control.

Mr. Mikhail Gorbachev has been well-advised. On the face of it, the Soviet offer removes the biggest obstacle in the way of a CTB treaty. This is the difficulty of ensuring satisfactory verification procedures - something on which British and American governments have rightly insisted. An increasing number of scientists in the West have argued that verification is possible anyway through advances in seismological technology. But the Soviet proposal for on-site inspection plus a chain of monitoring stations round the world, goes much further

towards answering Western powers' demands.

What it does not do is to allay British and American concern that the Soviets are carefully working things to their own advantage. The Russians have largely completed their own missile testing programme and can therefore afford to ease off. Not so the Western powers, including Britain which is developing a warhead for the Trident submarines in ten years' time.

There are strong arguments though for the British, American and Soviets at least to resume the CTB talks they broke off five years ago. Dependence on tests has to some extent decreased through advances in computer simulation. If a CTB treaty can be signed it will add strength to the non-proliferation movement, and provide some impetus to the painfully slow progress over arms control. This is a heady prospect, but the Russian offer (if we can call it that) might just represent a step in that direction.

FITTER THAN WE THINK

Politicians, even radical-minded politicians, come and go; spending programmes flourish and wither; unemployment rises and falls again. But the oral life of the nation follows its own rhythm. Begone dull caries has been the watchword for the past fifteen years or more. Through the 1970s, at an accelerating rate in the 1980s, British teeth have been getting better. Visits to dentists are down; numbers of dentures are down.

We may still lack those straight-backed rows of molars, pre-molars and canines which adorn the mouths of our American cousins. We may still stand, gap-toothed, in some need of the orthodontist's art. Yet our dental progress is unmistakable. In 1968 some 37 per cent of adults in England and Wales had lost their own teeth; in 15 years that figure dropped to 25 per cent. And the check-up habit has grown. During the same period,

the proportion of adults going to their dentist for a regular check-up grew from 40 to 48 per cent.

Teeth are one of the elements of domestic life measured in this week's edition of the General Household Survey, which remains (like its companions recording social, economic and population trends) a standing tribute to the quality of the government statistical services. Morose wits have observed that Britain's decline will be the best measured in history. Yet the data belie lazy generalizations. Whatever the trends in income and employment, the household facts, as surveyed by the Central Statistical Office, are about improvement. Year on year Britain is becoming better housed: people have more space than ever before, better heating. Lives are more sanitary and they are more comfortable. Ownership of televisions, fridges, phones and cars moves onwards

and upwards without a break - through the years of mass unemployment.

The beauty of these social statistics is that they defy the Cassandra. Enemies of the motor car and the television, likely to be glib about the growth of a sedentary life style, have to contend with the fact that while car ownership increases the number of trips taken by car may be in decline and that while television watching was even more popular in 1983 than five years previously, during the same period there looks to have been an increase in the amount of strenuous physical exercise taken. Leisure-time walking is not only the most popular physical activity but people are doing more of it, and doing more of it in winter, too, despite the weather. That fact may not constitute social progress, but it will surely benefit the national waistline.

Violence of their own personal kind. This violence is often of an unskilled, spontaneous sort and is not likely to be mainly "something just copied" from a television model. In other words, the danger includes, but goes well beyond, imitation.

I hope that those currently engaged in designing and in managing controls over the violent content of television programmes will have this matter very much in mind. Yours faithfully, WILLIAM BELSON, 41 York Mansions, Prince of Wales Drive, SW11. December 10.

Violence on television

From Dr William Belson
Sir, In your issue of December 6, Mr David Holbrook quoted the following item from the BBC's 1983 Guidelines:

There is no absolute proof of any instance of aggressive behaviour in society being due to an act of violence seen earlier on the television screen. That unrealistic statement appears to refer to the issue of direct imitation of screen violence and Mr Holbrook so treats it.

In my view, as a television investigator, there is no doubt about children imitating what they see on television. However, it should not be thought that imitation is the only

way in which television violence produces violence in the young viewer. Researchers have over the years put forward a number of psychological processes likely also to be involved.

The results of my own studies of the effects of television violence are consistent with one of these, namely, that long-term exposure to television violence erodes the social training that society imposes on children as a means of inhibiting or blocking off such underlying violent tendencies as they may have.

When this socially imposed control system is sufficiently weakened, children with such underlying tendencies may then lapse into

Schizophrenia in national context

From Mr Colin Kirk
Sir, It is to be hoped that your articles (December 16-18) on the plight of people with schizophrenia and their relatives will foster a national debate, which is long overdue. It is to be regretted that the second report of the Social Services Committee of the House of Commons failed to achieve that.

The same fate has been met by the "10 year plan" of the mid-sixties, *Better Services for the Mentally Ill* of the mid-seventies and various other general policy statements, including *Care in the Community and Patients First*.

The message is common to them all. That message is that schizophrenia causes more hardship than any other illness, consumes resources that cost the country hundreds of millions of pounds a year, is inadequately researched and for which patterns of service delivery are often inept and inadequate.

The polarization of view between provision of asylum in mental institutions and provision of community care services needs to be debated to an informed and agreed conclusion and a reasonably standard model of service delivery applied nationally. It will not be a compromise but a recognition of the part each has to play, which, when implemented, will need to be backed up by quality assurance measures that have legal force.

There have been major scandals about standards of treatment and care in the mental institutions and similarly about neglect in the community. Good practices, in both locations, have been extensively reported over the years in the professional press. These are less newsworthy, no doubt less powerful in achieving change through public pressure, but they hold out hope for the future.

The legislators in 1946 drew a dividing line between the National Health Service and social services, which makes discharge from hospital the legal point at which NHS responsibility for treatment and care is replaced by social service responsibility for after-care. It is a point largely ignored by those mental institutions which, in response to the lack of after-care resources in the community, have developed their own community outreach, combining their resources with those of social and voluntary agencies which are available.

A non-strike situation

From Mr Michael Winner
Sir, Your readers who wonder where their ITV programmes have been disappearing to lately - and will, it seems, vanish over Christmas - may not recall the electricians' union announcing the result of their strike ballot; even though they took Government money to aid such democracy.

The reason is simple: there was no ballot and there is no strike. Why then, the wondering might ask, are programmes disappearing along with the electricians who are meant to light them?

"Selling *Militant* outside the branch meeting room... would not be sufficient evidence to justify expulsion."

There is no conference or NEC decision to the effect that Labour Party membership is incompatible with selling the *Militant*. Those who attempt to use such a false pretext will be clearly breaking the rules and constitution of the party.

If action does proceed on this basis, then those concerned can expect to face legal action. The editorial board is also taking legal advice about any ban being in contravention to the laws on fair trading.

I hope this clarifies the matter. Yours, PETER TAAFFE, Editor, *Militant*, 3-15 Hepscoot Road, E9. December 11.

Clinical staff salaries

From Professor T. H. D. Arie
Sir, Two letters from heads of universities (October 30 and November 29) draw attention to the serious consequences of breaking the established parity of salaries between clinical doctors employed by the universities and their counterparts in the National Health Service. But for university departments in what are variously called the "priority" or "Cinderella" specialties this will be a catastrophe.

The department for which I am responsible is concerned with the care of mentally and physically ill old people. Much has been achieved in raising the quality of medical practice in these fields and this has been in large measure through building up effective educational programmes for doctors and other health workers. But for this we need to recruit able people to teaching posts.

Second best

From Dr John H. Greensmith
Sir, Mr Elwyn (December 14) was lucky to be able to cut a boiled egg with his credit card.

I have also heard that credit cards are useful for cleaning windcreens on frosty mornings. Unfortunately, my credit card doesn't cut any ice with my bank manager.

Yours faithfully, JOHN GREENSMITH, 42 Prebend Street, Bedford.

From Mr John Wade
Sir, Further to the letter from Michael Elwyn, I would have been more interested had he taken a hard-boiled egg and cut a credit card in two. Yours faithfully, JOHN WADE (Member, Inner Magic Circle), The Magic Circle, Chancery Mews, WC1.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Self-control issue for Lloyd's

From Mr Gerard Wright, QC
Sir, The preamble of Lloyd's disclosure of interests by-law reads as follows:

Underwriting agents at Lloyd's are subject to the duties imposed by law upon agents generally, including fiduciary duties to account to their principals, to avoid conflicts of interests and not to make secret profits.

This is a correct statement of what the law is, and of what the law was long before the passing of the Lloyd's Act 1982.

However it is now generally known that baby syndicates, more accurately described as "preferred" syndicates, have been a feature of the Lloyd's scene for a long time. The PCW group, unknown to most of its members, had several. Two of them were numbered 954 and 986 and in the years 1970-79 they each had just seven members. They were the same seven members and six of the seven were working underwriters employed by the group.

In the years 1970-79 the two syndicates made profits totalling £2,585,866. Of this princely sum Cameron Webb and Dixon shared between them £1,073,333, more than £500,000 each. These figures would have been filed with Lloyd's. They indicate a flagrant breach of the principles of law set out above.

In today's *Times* (December 11) you have the headline: "Lloyd's chiefs clamp down on preferred underwriting." As one of the defuncted PCW names I ask two questions. First, why did Lloyd's permit its names to be defrauded for so many years? Second, is an institution which permitted this to happen fit to regulate itself?

Yours faithfully, GERARD WRIGHT, Melbourne Buildings, 21 North Street, Liverpool. December 11.

Nuclear waste disposal

From Dr J. G. B. Russell
Sir, The report (details, December 16) of the concern expressed by the Commons select committee regarding radioactive waste disposal by the British nuclear industry must be kept in perspective. A recent survey by the National Radiological Protection Board estimated the annual population exposure from radioactive waste to be 120 man-Sieverts (units which measure the radiation dose to the population).

This may be compared to the population radiation exposure from mining and burning coal, which is estimated at 466 man-Sv per year. However, by far the biggest contribution to man-made ionizing radiation to the population is from medical diagnostic radiography, 12,000 man-Sv per year.

At present, British Nuclear Fuels are spending as much as £50,000 to avoid the exposure of 1 man-Sv. The radiation exposure from diagnostic radiography can be halved at a cost of £150 per man-Sv saved.

Resources may be short, but they should be spent where the most benefit will arise. Before large sums are allocated to reduce further the population exposure to radiation from the nuclear fuel cycle, the much larger problem of reducing exposure from diagnostic radiography should be addressed. Yours faithfully, J. G. B. RUSSELL, Department of Radiology, St Mary's Hospital, Whitworth Park, Manchester. December 16.

CND membership

From Lord Orr-Ewing
Sir, Henry Stanhope (feature, December 13) appears to accept CND's denial that it is "going through a lean time". He reports without comment a CND spokesman's selective figures showing a rising membership since 1978. Published figures for 1984 (not included) show that membership is static at 110,000. "About 800 a month still join" sounds impressive but 800 a month also lapsed.

Yours faithfully, IAN ORR-EWING, House of Lords. December 13.

Fog in the Hebrides

From Vice-Admiral Sir Ian McGeach
Sir, May I comment upon the report of your Environment Correspondent (December 13) that the Government is being pressed by the Scottish Seismic Trust to ban tankers from using the Little Minch between Skye and the Hebrides, owing to "the high risk of a giant oil spill"?

Passage west of the Hebrides, as advocated, would add at least three hours to its length. In terms of tanker operation costs this would add about £500,000 to the total arising from the 1,000 transits a year.

About one fifth of this sum applied by the Northern Lighthouse Board, and four fifths by the owners of the tankers concerned, could provide a radar recognition system of key navigational marks which would enable tankers (or any other shipping similarly equipped) to use the recommended tracks north or south through the Little Minch with very little risk, even in the thickest fog.

To be able to sail with confidence, at many miles' range in all conditions of light and visibility, which splodge on the radar was Efficent Trolley, for example, and which was Spier nam Mao (or a fishing boat), would be more in

ON THIS DAY

DECEMBER 20 1902

Since its completion in 1902 the Assuan dam (2.25km long) was heightened in 1912 and again in 1934. There were two problems of protocol at the ceremony - who should perform it (the Khedive or HRI Duke of Connaught) and the seating arrangements for the representative of the German emperor and that of the king of Italy. All there is no space to include the account of the bizarre diplomacy involved in the solution. The Assuan High dam (3.8km) four miles upstream was completed in 1970.

THE OPENING OF THE ASSUAN DAM

(FROM OUR SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT, ASSUAN, Dec. 10)

Today the last stone of the huge wall - by which the flood of the Nile has been cribbed and confined - was laid with all due pomp and ceremony... Now the dam is complete Upper Egypt may reasonably be expected to rival, if not to surpass, Lower Egypt in the extraordinary fertility and productivity of its soil. Moreover it is, as there is every reason to expect, the Assuan Dam proves permanently successful, it is certain to be the forerunner of a number of similar works south of Assuan. Men, now living, may not reasonably hope to see the day when the Nile has become navigable all the year round, from its mouth up to its sources in the Equatorial lakes. In that event Egypt may be about to enter on an era of grandeur and prosperity unknown even in the days of any of the ancient dynasties which have held sway over the valley of the Nile.

The first special train from Cairo, by which I was a passenger, left on Thursday evening for Luxor, where we stopped both Friday and Saturday so as to give the guests time to visit Karnak and the tombs of the dead pharaohs. It was a long and tiring journey, but the occasion to see for myself the changes which had occurred in the past since I had last visited it, a little more than two years previously. At that time the work of the dam had not been raised more than 135 to 140 ft in any part, and the general features of the scene were still such as I remembered them to be in the old days, when the river rushed down in blind fury over the sunken rocks. All this is changed now. From one side of the valley to the other there stretches a solid granite wall of a mile and a quarter in length, surmounted by a fine stone pavement of the same material for trams, and a line of rails for trams runs in the centre, and with stone parapets on either side. The whole work, to outward appearance, was absolutely complete. All the scaffolding, beams, sheds, and work-shops had been swept clean away. I could not detect the presence of a single workman in the neighbourhood. A line of the sluices were open to stop the rise of the water behind the dam, which at present, when the sluices are closed, rises at the rate of 4 in. a day. Looking northwards, what struck me most was the seeming shrinkage of the river. It was no longer the broad deep stream of old days, but a narrow channel, only broken by the rocks which stemmed its downward course, and separated its waters into different channels. On the contrary, the rocks looked now as if they, and not the waters of the Nile were masters of the situation.

The grand Tarnishish channel, whose course had been obstructed just above the centre of the dam, was well-nigh bereft of its water, and minor streams were formed in every direction as the open sluices belched forth the seething masses of white foam into the channels which lay nearest to their shore. There are a hundred and eighty of these sluices, and I should like to be there if ever they are all opened at one and the same time...

After the ceremony was over the locks were opened, and number of launches and sailing boats passed up from the river to the Nile, and many of the guests, especially the foreign ones, the British, the French, the German, the Italian, the American, the Japanese, the Chinese, the Russian, the Indian, the Australian, the New Zealand, the South African, the Canadian, the Argentine, the Chilean, the Peruvian, the Bolivian, the Paraguayan, the Uruguayan, the Brazilian, the Cuban, the Haitian, the Dominican, the Puerto Rican, the Virginian, the Jamaican, the Barbadian, the Trinidadian, the Guyanese, the Surinamese, the Guianese, the Guatemalan, the Honduran, the Nicaraguan, the Costa Rican, the Panamanian, the Colombian, the Venezuelan, the Ecuadorian, the Peruvian, the Bolivian, the Paraguayan, the Uruguayan, the Brazilian, the Cuban, the Haitian, the Dominican, the Puerto Rican, the Virginian, the Jamaican, the Barbadian, the Trinidadian, the Guyanese, the Surinamese, the Guianese, the Guatemalan, the Honduran, the Nicaraguan, the Costa Rican, the Panamanian, the Colombian, the Venezuelan, the Ecuadorian, the Peruvian, the Bolivian, the Paraguayan, the Uruguayan, the Brazilian, the Cuban, the Haitian, the Dominican, the Puerto Rican, the Virginian, the Jamaican, the Barbadian, the Trinidadian, the Guyanese, the Surinamese, the Guianese, the Guatemalan, the Honduran, the Nicaraguan, the Costa Rican, the Panamanian, the Colombian, the Venezuelan, the Ecuadorian, the Peruvian, the Bolivian, the Paraguayan, the Uruguayan, the Brazilian, the Cuban, the Haitian, the Dominican, the Puerto Rican, the Virginian, the Jamaican, the Barbadian, the Trinidadian, the Guyanese, the Surinamese, the Guianese, the Guatemalan, the Honduran, the Nicaraguan, the Costa Rican, the Panamanian, the Colombian, the Venezuelan, the Ecuadorian, the Peruvian, the Bolivian, the Paraguayan, the Uruguayan, the Brazilian, the Cuban, the Haitian, the Dominican, the Puerto Rican, the Virginian, the Jamaican, the Barbadian, the Trinidadian, the Guyanese, the Surinamese, the Guianese, the Guatemalan, the Honduran, the Nicaraguan, the Costa Rican, the Panamanian, the Colombian, the Venezuelan, the Ecuadorian, the Peruvian, the Bolivian, the Paraguayan, the Uruguayan, the Brazilian, the Cuban, the Haitian, the Dominican, the Puerto Rican, the Virginian, the Jamaican, the Barbadian, the Trinidadian, the Guyanese, the Surinamese, the Guianese, the Guatemalan, the Honduran, the Nicaraguan, the Costa Rican, the Panamanian, the Colombian, the Venezuelan, the Ecuadorian, the Peruvian, the Bolivian, the Paraguayan, the Uruguayan, the Brazilian, the Cuban, the Haitian, the Dominican, the Puerto Rican, the Virginian, the Jamaican, the Barbadian, the Trinidadian, the Guyanese, the Surinamese, the Guianese, the Guatemalan, the Honduran, the Nicaraguan, the Costa Rican, the Panamanian, the Colombian, the Venezuelan, the Ecuadorian, the Peruvian, the Bolivian, the Paraguayan, the Uruguayan, the Brazilian, the Cuban, the Haitian, the Dominican, the Puerto Rican, the Virginian, the Jamaican, the Barbadian, the Trinidadian, the Guyanese, the Surinamese, the Guianese, the Guatemalan, the Honduran, the Nicaraguan, the Costa Rican, the Panamanian, the Colombian, the Venezuelan, the Ecuadorian, the Peruvian, the Bolivian, the Paraguayan, the Uruguayan, the Brazilian, the Cuban, the Haitian, the Dominican, the Puerto Rican, the Virginian, the Jamaican, the Barbadian, the Trinidadian, the Guyanese, the Surinamese, the Guianese, the Guatemalan, the Honduran, the Nicaraguan, the Costa Rican, the Panamanian, the Colombian, the Venezuelan, the Ecuadorian, the Peruvian, the Bolivian, the Paraguayan, the Uruguayan, the Brazilian, the Cuban, the Haitian, the Dominican, the Puerto Rican, the Virginian, the Jamaican, the Barbadian, the Trinidadian, the Guyanese, the Surinamese, the Guianese, the Guatemalan, the Honduran, the Nicaraguan, the Costa Rican, the Panamanian, the Colombian, the Venezuelan, the Ecuadorian, the Peruvian, the Bolivian, the Paraguayan, the Uruguayan, the Brazilian, the Cuban, the Haitian, the Dominican, the Puerto Rican, the Virginian, the Jamaican, the Barbadian, the Trinidadian, the Guyanese, the Surinamese, the Guianese, the Guatemalan, the Honduran, the Nicaraguan, the Costa Rican, the Panamanian, the Colombian, the Venezuelan, the Ecuadorian, the Peruvian, the Bolivian, the Paraguayan, the Uruguayan, the Brazilian, the Cuban, the Haitian, the Dominican, the Puerto Rican, the Virginian, the Jamaican, the Barbadian, the Trinidadian, the Guyanese, the Surinamese, the Guianese, the Guatemalan, the Honduran, the Nicaraguan, the Costa Rican, the Panamanian, the Colombian, the Venezuelan, the Ecuadorian, the Peruvian, the Bolivian, the Paraguayan, the Uruguayan, the Brazilian, the Cuban, the Haitian, the Dominican, the Puerto Rican, the Virginian, the Jamaican, the Barbadian, the Trinidadian, the Guyanese, the Surinamese, the Guianese, the Guatemalan, the Honduran, the Nicaraguan, the Costa Rican, the Panamanian, the Colombian, the Venezuelan, the Ecuadorian, the Peruvian, the Bolivian, the Paraguayan, the Uruguayan, the Brazilian, the Cuban, the Haitian, the Dominican, the Puerto Rican, the Virginian, the Jamaican, the Barbadian, the Trinidadian, the Guyanese, the Surinamese, the Guianese, the Guatemalan, the Honduran, the Nicaraguan, the Costa Rican, the Panamanian, the Colombian, the Venezuelan, the Ecuadorian, the Peruvian, the Bolivian, the Paraguayan, the Uruguayan, the Brazilian, the Cuban, the Haitian, the Dominican, the Puerto Rican, the Virginian, the Jamaican, the Barbadian, the Trinidadian, the Guyanese, the Surinamese, the Guianese, the Guatemalan, the Honduran, the Nicaraguan, the Costa Rican, the Panamanian, the Colombian, the Venezuelan, the Ecuadorian, the Peruvian, the Bolivian, the Paraguayan, the Uruguayan, the Brazilian, the Cuban, the Haitian, the Dominican, the Puerto Rican, the Virginian, the Jamaican, the Barbadian, the Trinidadian, the Guyanese, the Surinamese, the Guianese, the Guatemalan, the Honduran, the Nicaraguan, the Costa Rican, the Panamanian, the Colombian, the Venezuelan, the Ecuadorian, the Peruvian, the Bolivian, the Paraguayan, the Uruguayan, the Brazilian, the Cuban, the Haitian, the Dominican, the Puerto Rican, the Virginian, the Jamaican, the Barbadian, the Trinidadian, the Guyanese, the Surinamese, the Guianese, the Guatemalan, the Honduran, the Nicaraguan, the Costa Rican, the Panamanian, the Colombian, the Venezuelan, the Ecuadorian, the Peruvian, the Bolivian, the Paraguayan, the Uruguayan, the Brazilian, the Cuban, the Haitian, the Dominican, the Puerto Rican, the Virginian, the Jamaican, the Barbadian, the Trinidadian, the Guyanese, the Surinamese, the Guianese, the Guatemalan, the Honduran, the Nicaraguan, the Costa Rican, the Panamanian, the Colombian, the Venezuelan, the Ecuadorian, the Peruvian, the Bolivian, the Paraguayan, the Uruguayan, the Brazilian, the Cuban, the Haitian, the Dominican, the Puerto Rican, the Virginian, the Jamaican, the Barbadian, the Trinidadian, the Guyanese, the Surinamese, the Guianese, the Guatemalan, the Honduran, the Nicaraguan, the Costa Rican, the Panamanian, the Colombian, the Venezuelan, the Ecuadorian, the Peruvian, the Bolivian, the Paraguayan, the Uruguayan, the Brazilian, the Cuban, the Haitian, the Dominican, the Puerto Rican, the Virginian, the Jamaican, the Barbadian, the Trinidadian, the Guyanese, the Surinamese, the Guianese, the Guatemalan, the Honduran, the Nicaraguan, the Costa Rican, the Panamanian, the Colombian, the Venezuelan, the Ecuadorian, the Peruvian, the Bolivian, the Paraguayan, the Uruguayan, the Brazilian, the Cuban, the Haitian, the Dominican, the Puerto Rican, the Virginian, the Jamaican, the Barbadian, the Trinidadian, the Guyanese, the Surinamese, the Guianese, the Guatemalan, the Honduran, the Nicaraguan, the Costa Rican, the Panamanian, the Colombian, the Venezuelan, the Ecuadorian, the Peruvian, the Bolivian, the Paraguayan, the Uruguayan, the Brazilian, the Cuban, the Haitian, the Dominican, the Puerto Rican, the Virginian, the Jamaican, the Barbadian, the Trinidadian, the Guyanese, the Surinamese, the Guianese, the Guatemalan, the Honduran, the Nicaraguan, the Costa Rican, the Panamanian, the Colombian, the Venezuelan, the Ecuadorian, the Peruvian, the Bolivian, the Paraguayan, the Uruguayan, the Brazilian, the Cuban, the Haitian, the Dominican, the Puerto Rican, the Virginian, the Jamaican, the Barbadian, the Trinidadian, the Guyanese, the Surinamese, the Guianese, the Guatemalan, the Honduran, the Nicaraguan, the Costa Rican, the Panamanian, the Colombian, the Venezuelan, the Ecuadorian, the Peruvian, the Bolivian, the Paraguayan, the Uruguayan, the Brazilian, the Cuban, the Haitian, the Dominican, the Puerto Rican, the Virginian, the Jamaican, the Barbadian, the Trinidadian, the Guyanese, the Surinamese, the Guianese, the Guatemalan, the Honduran, the Nicaraguan, the Costa Rican, the Panamanian, the Colombian, the Venezuelan, the Ecuadorian, the Peruvian, the Bolivian, the Paraguayan, the Uruguayan, the Brazilian, the Cuban, the Haitian, the Dominican, the Puerto Rican, the Virginian, the Jamaican, the Barbadian, the Trinidadian, the Guyanese, the Surinamese, the Guianese, the Guatemalan, the Honduran, the Nicaraguan, the Costa Rican, the Panamanian, the Colombian, the Venezuelan, the Ecuadorian, the Peruvian, the Bolivian, the Paraguayan, the Uruguayan, the Brazilian, the Cuban, the Haitian, the Dominican, the Puerto Rican, the Virginian, the Jamaican, the Barbadian, the Trinidadian, the Guyanese, the Surinamese, the Guianese, the Guatemalan, the Honduran, the Nicaraguan, the Costa Rican, the Panamanian, the Colombian, the Venezuelan, the Ecuadorian, the Peruvian, the Bolivian, the Paraguayan, the Uruguayan, the Brazilian, the Cuban, the Haitian, the Dominican, the Puerto Rican, the Virginian, the Jamaican, the Barbadian, the Trinidadian, the Guyanese, the Surinamese, the Guianese, the Guatemalan, the Honduran, the Nicaraguan, the Costa Rican, the Panamanian, the Colombian, the Venezuelan, the Ecuadorian, the Peruvian, the Bolivian, the Paraguayan, the Uruguayan, the Brazilian, the Cuban, the Haitian, the Dominican, the Puerto Rican, the Virginian, the Jamaican, the Barbadian, the Trinidadian, the Guyanese, the Surinamese, the Guianese, the Guatemalan, the Honduran, the Nicaraguan, the Costa Rican, the Panamanian, the Colombian, the Venezuelan, the Ecuadorian, the Peruvian, the Bolivian, the Paraguayan, the Uruguayan, the Brazilian, the Cuban, the Haitian, the Dominican, the Puerto Rican, the Virginian, the Jamaican, the Barbadian, the Trinidadian, the Guyanese, the Surinamese, the Guianese, the Guatemalan, the Honduran, the Nicaraguan, the Costa Rican, the Panamanian, the Colombian, the Venezuelan, the Ecuadorian, the Peruvian, the Bolivian, the Paraguayan, the Uruguayan, the Brazilian, the Cuban, the Haitian, the Dominican, the Puerto Rican, the Virginian, the Jamaican, the Barbadian, the Trinidadian, the Guyanese, the Surinamese, the Guianese, the Guatemalan, the Honduran, the Nicaraguan, the Costa Rican, the Panamanian, the Colombian, the Venezuelan, the Ecuadorian, the Peruvian, the Bolivian, the Paraguayan, the Uruguayan, the Brazilian, the Cuban, the Haitian, the Dominican, the Puerto Rican, the Virginian, the Jamaican, the Barbadian, the Trinidadian, the Guyanese, the Surinamese, the Guianese, the Guatemalan, the Honduran, the Nicaraguan, the Costa Rican, the Panamanian, the Colombian, the Venezuelan, the Ecuadorian, the Peruvian, the Bolivian, the Paraguayan, the Uruguayan, the Brazilian, the Cuban, the Haitian, the Dominican, the Puerto Rican, the Virginian, the Jamaican, the Barbadian, the Trinidadian, the Guyanese, the Surinamese, the Guianese, the Guatemalan, the Honduran, the Nicaraguan, the Costa Rican, the Panamanian, the Colombian, the Venezuelan, the Ecuadorian, the Peruvian, the Bolivian, the Paraguayan, the Uruguayan, the Brazilian, the Cuban, the Haitian, the Dominican, the Puerto Rican, the Virginian, the Jamaican, the Barbadian, the Trinidadian, the Guyanese, the Surinamese, the Guianese, the Guatemalan, the Honduran, the Nicaraguan, the Costa Rican, the Panamanian, the Colombian, the Venezuelan, the Ecuadorian, the Peruvian, the Bolivian, the Paraguayan, the Uruguayan, the Brazilian, the Cuban, the Haitian, the Dominican, the Puerto Rican, the Virginian, the Jamaican, the Barbadian, the Trinidadian, the Guyanese, the Surinamese, the Guianese, the Guatemalan, the Honduran, the Nicaraguan, the Costa Rican, the Panamanian, the Colombian, the Venezuelan, the Ecuadorian, the Per

FRIDAY PAGE

Still in the limelight

Claire Bloom returns
to our television
screens on Sunday
in *Shadowlands*.
The English rose, star
of stage and film,
was shot to fame
by Charlie Chaplin

There is nothing laid back about Claire Bloom. Her house is immaculate, her clothes are exactly chosen and her words are considered and reticent. She is tense, sitting on the edge of her green pinstriped sofa ready, apparently, to take offence. And, finally, she is quite staggeringly beautiful.

At 54 it is not that she looks young in the manner of some *Dynasty* moll, but rather that age suits her. Her evidently taut and controlled personality has grown into her face, making it finer-grained than in her youth and infinitely more expressive.

It was, of course, the fuller, 19-year-old version of that face which obsessed Charlie Chaplin. He used it to embody a vision both of his mother and of his wife. In the film *Limelight* as part of his complex attempt to put aspects of his own life onto the screen. She had no idea of the psychological quagmire into which she had stepped when she took the part. But she did know that Chaplin had made her a star. She came back from Hollywood to find herself the heroine of the Fifties gossip columns and to perform one of London's most memorable Julietes.

She was assumed to be the latest English girl to conquer Hollywood, but it did not quite happen like that. Certainly she married Rod Steiger, a match that seemed appropriate to the rising cinema superstar image. But neither the next few films she made nor her personality quite fitted the part.

"I had a very guarded life in Hollywood when I was making *Limelight*", she explains. "It wasn't really Hollywood at all, it was Charlie. I went back there to make *The Brothers Karamazov* - that's the one that makes me wince a lot - and there was a kind of glamour, but it wasn't for me."

Part of the problem was her unease at the quality of the fame which she had to endure. She was a darling of the tabloids. Her every liaison and acquaintance was faithfully documented. "It was a nightmare, the stuff of written about me," she says. "It was a horror. I was disliked. I seemed to have a funny effect on the press. It was as if I was a child and I belonged to them."

Another problem was that she found it almost impossible to live permanently in America. It is a country that seems to strip her of any identity. "When I was married to Rod Steiger we lived in Malibu. That's not a place it's just a nightmare. It's not even living abroad, it's just Gloomsville."

Nevertheless, Americans evidently attract her. After Steiger she married the producer Hillard Elkins and now she lives with Philip Roth, the author of *Portnoy's Complaint*. But still the country seems to hold some indefinable terror. "When we stay at Philip's farm in Connecticut we are in the middle of nowhere. There's nothing outside. It's just an isolated house. Here I have friends and everything."

Almost all the time now her home is an unspectacular London terrace house where Chelsea begins to fade into Fulham, not far from Hollywood Road. The decor is safely and expensively tasteful. Upstairs lives the daughter she had with Steiger, Anna, who is an opera singer. In the basement lives a very old lady, a sitting tenant who came with the house when it was bought 10 years ago. Bloom has long given up collecting any rent.



A certain wistful detachment from the whole charade

Claire Bloom was destined to become neither American nor a film star. She loves London too much and has lived here so long and so intensely that every street seems to have a personal memory. England as a whole she can take or leave, but London is an addiction - "It's a great wonderful city."

From *Limelight* she went on to a series of increasingly successful stage performances, as well as some film roles, culminating in *Blanche du Bois* in the 1974 London production of *A Streetcar Named Desire*. She remembers it as her finest role and everybody who saw it recalls it as one of the great performances of recent years. Physically the role almost destroyed her. Blanche dominates the three-and-a-half-hour play and Bloom had agreed to do eight performances a week. It was probably worth it after that she ceased either to be the little mouse of the London stage or the lucky beneficiary of show business's greatest lucky break. She became simply one of the best actresses of her generation. Through it all runs this feeling of fierce control, of nervous sensitivity. All the time she watches and jealousy

guards the way she is perceived in case at any time she slips below her expectations. "I am a star", she announces at one point. "I have always been a star."

She is unquestionably right. Worthy and solid as is everybody else in her latest film for British television, the moment she appears the production tells off. It is called *Shadowlands* and tells the story of C. S. Lewis in late middle age.

The old Christian visionary and Oxford don meets an American admirer, Joy Gresham. With two sons in tow, she is fleeing a broken marriage. Born Jewish and formerly a Communist, Lewis's writings have helped turn her into a Christian. Out of friendship Lewis marries her to allow her to stay in Britain, drawing up a contract making it clear that the whole thing is purely a business arrangement. But, when she falls desperately ill with cancer, he suddenly realises he is hopelessly in love and the marriage becomes a real one.

The first oddity about the production is that it is from the BBC's religious department. "That did give me a bit of a turn at first but then I saw a few things *Everyman* had done and I knew it



Bloom in 'A Streetcar Named Desire' (left) and 'Limelight'

wasn't going to be a religious tract. I had read some C. S. Lewis but it's not exactly up my alley. I'm not in the least interested in Christian philosophy. But the character of Joy did interest me. She was a woman of great enthusiasm and Christianity was one. Perhaps she would have outgrown it if she had lived longer."

During the six weeks of filming in Oxford and Cardiff last winter, it was clear that some tensions did arise from Bloom's scepticism about the motivation in the story. The finished product is warm and distinctly Christmassy; she had in mind a considerably bleaker reading.

Bloom has been doing a steady series of television appearances including several in the BBC Shakespeare series. When we met she was just off to Paris to start filming yet another American mini-series, this time about the sculptor of the Statue of Liberty. It is all varied and reasonably exciting work but none of it holds out the promise of another *Blanche du Bois*.

"I would like to do another stage play. But not in the commercial theatre, only in controlled circumstances in repertory or a limited run. But there just aren't that many parts that would make it worthwhile."

Not having been a film star, she lacks the ability to pick and choose the odd, gigantic production. Instead she seems tied to the hard work of television. It occasionally offers up plums: she has filmed *Oedipus* for the BBC with Michael Pennington and next spring she will be making a version of Philip Roth's *The Prague Orgy* for Channel 4. But there is a sense in which it is not enough for her.

She is not one to admit there could be anything wrong. Indeed in reality there isn't. But for a certain defensiveness, her nervous energy obviously allows her to enjoy every minute of every job, even when the scripts are lousy and the directors will not direct - and, in any case, she retains a certain wistful detachment from the whole charade.

"If you read my book you'll see I wanted something else other than to be a film star. I wanted to be an actress. There are other rewards than being a big movie star. I always wanted to do all kinds of things and I'm just as ambitious now as when I was 20."

"When I wrote my autobiography I realized there was a straight line between my desire and my objective. When I was a child I used to daydream, to embroider on life. Acting is a way of doing that professionally. I think for all actors - even very intellectual men like Gielgud - it's just a way of playing a certain childish game. In one way it's important and in another it's totally unimportant. You put loads of emotions and baggage into it but it's all over in a moment and you know it's just because you had to keep a certain childlike part of yourself alive. It's such an odd profession. It's so foolish to think one will be remembered."

Bryan Appleyard

Shadowlands will be broadcast on BBC1 at 9pm on Sunday. Claire Bloom's autobiography *Limelight* and *After* was published by Weidenfeld & Nicolson in 1982.

© Times Newspapers Limited, 1985

MEDICAL BRIEFING

Playing it safe with the sleeper

The case of Vladimir Leontev, the Russian admitted to a Hemel Hempstead hospital apparently either asleep or unconscious, cost the NHS around £3,000, including considerable sums in fruitless investigations. Television shots of Mr Leontev showing the way he responded to nursing care made it clear that the symptoms were unlikely to have been caused by physical disease. But in these cases there is always the possibility that the patient's psychiatric state is secondary to organic disease, so exhaustive tests are necessary.

If Mr Leontev was not malingering it would seem he was suffering from a variant of



Leontev: malingering?

the hysterical state of somnambulism where, despite a waking rather than a sleeping electroencephalograph from the brain, the patient does not respond to

external stimuli. The more usual problem confronting hospitals is the allied loss of self-identification and memory, where the patient has no idea who he is or where he has come from and is possibly fleeing from a life or situation they have found impossible. Sooner or later they come to and are able to give an account of themselves.

Mr Leontev was deported to Calais and was released from his three-week sleep last Friday. French hospital staff had shone lights into his eyes and tickled his feet. He is said to be excessively weak because of malnutrition and is expected to undergo psychiatric tests.

Careful watch on squash dangers

Squash players who escape coronary collapse should take special care of their eyesight. In 1983 the Squash Rackets Association appointed a working party to study eye injuries and canvassed all casualty and ophthalmic departments to evaluate the size of the problem. More than 339 eye injuries were reported to the association between October, 1982, and March, 1983.

Mr J. Kennerley Banks, a London eye surgeon and a member of the working party, has reported his findings recently to the British Medical Journal. The ball was responsible for 235 injuries, the racket for 103 and colliding with the wall three. In 40 cases the player's sight will be permanently damaged: haemorrhage, swellings, and detachment of the retina were the common causes of injury and in only three cases was the eye damaged by penetration.

Infertility explored

As Christmas centres on nativity and festivities for children, the frustrations of childlessness are heightened at this time of year.

A recent study in the Bristol area by a multi-disciplinary team has analysed the problem: it affects 400,000 people in the southern half of Bristol, West-super-Mare and the adjoining countryside. A total of 708 couples sought help so that it is known that at least one pair in six are involuntarily infertile.

The results of the survey, published in the *British Medical Journal* confirm previous findings that in the largest group of infertility couples the cause remains unexplained; in many of these cases pregnancy was later achieved without treatment. It is suggested that test-tube fertilization offers hope to 18 per cent of the couples investigated.

Are the children sitting safely?

The queues of London last Friday were a forerunner of the flight to the country which will happen this weekend. Many parents will drive believing that their babies are safe from accidents, strapped into specially-designed seats attached to the back seat.

Research work at Charing Cross Hospital shows that many families have bought an estate car or hatchback expressly to accommodate children and their luggage and it is these cars that have inadequately secured baby seats. It is especially dangerous if the rear anchorage of the child's seat is too close to the foot of the back seat.

Some dos and don'ts for a healthy Christmas

● If travelling away for Christmas, make certain before leaving that the whole family has enough of any medicine they may need. Children in particular may require more than expected.

● Treatment for sea and car sickness has also greatly improved in the last few years. Before a long journey it may be wise to give an over-excited child a mild tranquillizer at bedtime but it is important for parents to know that the child

may be depressed and irritable next morning.

● Long car journeys and air flights are not suitable for pregnant women and should be broken every hour or so for exercise. Even a walk down an aircraft passage is usually enough to restore circulation; the sitting position causes pelvic congestion and heightens the risk of miscarriage.

● Mild stomach infections can spoil Christmas for both patients and doctors yet rules of hygiene are simple and straightforward. Make certain all poultry is completely thawed before cooking and stored cooked and uncooked food in different places. When preparing dinner do not use the same cooking utensils, whether knives, forks or dishes, for preparing cooked and uncooked meat. Stuffing should be cooked separately but if the cook insists on being traditional it should be placed in the bird's crop.

Dr Thomas Stuttford

Heartfelt respect?

From T. C. Alexander, *Ilhgate Lane, Farnborough, Hants.*

It is pleasing to note that Sir Michael Havers received such splendid attention during his stay in a National Health hospital (First Person, Monday, December 9). I wonder if Sir Michael appreciates that the "cheerful and dedicated nursing staff" who did so much to help him are held in such high regard by their paymasters that when they are due for overtime payments, these are based on their old rates of their last pay award, ungenerous as this was.

I wish Sir Michael a speedy and complete recovery.

From Mrs Julie Moody, *Elder Garth, Garforth, Leeds.*

Pleasing as it is to read praise of the NHS, Sir Michael Havers's account of his experience is touchingly naive. Surely he is not labouring under any delusion that the excellent treatment he received was entirely unrelated to the staff's undoubted awareness of his identity?

From Margaret Mackay, *The Old Post Office, Tormarton, Badminton, Northavon.*

I was delighted to read the feature written by Sir Michael Havers. Having recently had the care of an aged parent, terminally ill with cancer, and a daughter having her first baby, we leaned heavily on the health professionals.

I was, at the same time, shamed by the way we reward the nurses, whose importance, like Sir Michael, I cannot exaggerate. An agency nursing bill listed the services of a state registered nurse at £3.25 per hour, a state enrolled nurse at

TALKBACK

£2.95, and of a nursing auxiliary at £2.50. When this is compared with garage and electricians' bills, not to mention the remuneration of our doctors, bankers and solicitors, the gulf seems wide beyond toleration.

The servicing of our human needs when we may be physically and emotionally dependent on the responsible nursing staff, is surely as worthy of decent remuneration as the servicing of our machinery or money. I see that current pay negotiations for nurses are beginning, and having in mind the miserable figures above, I hope there will be great public support for their case.

From Mrs Jacqueline Dale, *The Old Bath, Drem, North Berwick.*

Michael Havers's tribute to the National Health Service made interesting reading. It is heartening to hear from so authoritative a source that, in a busy, well-staffed cardiac surgery unit, he received such excellent care. He should not have been surprised at "the amount of responsibility... delegated to them". These responsibilities are part of the job for which their professional training equips them.

Sir Michael was well advised to have his heart operation in such a distinguished NHS teaching hospital, but would his doctor have given him the same advice if he had suffered a stroke and had been faced with admission to a poorly staffed medical ward in a crumbling, Victorian, non-teaching hospital where resources are all too often woefully inadequate?

Putting an end to the fancy dress scramble with the wave of a wand

We are in the thick of the party season and it's whoopee cushions and Smurties all the way to Christmas for our cherished under-tens.

Peter was invited to a party last Friday - a fancy dress party. Usually I don't read the invitation until five minutes before we are due to go off and I'm looking for the address, so the words "fancy dress" can root me with horror to the spot for a full minute. After that I have to whip off my best shorts and shirt and wrap him in yards of old sheet with hasty tacking stitches.

"But what am I?" he cries, as we race out of the house. "You're a poached egg", I mutter, pressing a yellow pom-pom hat on his head.

"A poached egg? But I wanted to be Aztec. Master of the Universe", he screams.

This year, however, I was prepared. I read all the way to the end of the invitation and there it was, "costume required". I suggested to Peter that he went as a wizard. This was such a vast improvement on a poached egg that he agreed at once - perhaps fearing that if he rejected the idea I might try to get him up as an omelette.

Wizards, as far I am aware, were fairly simple dressers, favouring black cloaks and pointed hats, dotted about with stars, moons, and signs of the zodiac. I don't know what the average wizard wore for under-clothes - a couple of newts stitched together perhaps? This is the sort of fascinating historical detail not usually included in the "O" level syllabus. ("Medieval diplomacy was more savage during the winter". Discuss with relevance to the excruciating thermal undernews worn at court by tenth century wizards.)

A wizard way to beat eggs

MRS IONS' CHRISTMAS DIARY



Anyway, I bought some black lining material, some silver mesh and some sequins and over the next few days I fashioned a cloak any right thinking wizard would have given his third eye for. It oozed spells, it dripped potions. It smelt of frogs.

But the hat, I had trouble with the hat. I wanted to make a cone out of a sheet of stiff black paper. I even thought I knew how to do it and set to with great confidence snipping and

chopping, only to produce an affair with a huge peak at the front and a yawning gap at the back. By the time I had worked out how to produce a cone there was so little paper left it was necessary very squint and lacking in wizardly mystique.

Peter felt that a mask would compensate for this and made one out of the many triangular off-cuts strewn across the floor. I helped him cut the holes for his eyes and nose and mouth. Unfortunately, we misjudged the relative positions of the holes and had to keep enlarging one and then another until his entire face was visible through one large hole in the centre of the mask. We had to make another one because he felt he would be recognized.

Soon, all that remained to be done was to find some way of attaching his hat to his head and his mask to his face. I found some broad elastic for the purpose and began by fixing the mask. We managed, after a series of adjustments. It would have been easier if he had not had ears stuck on each side of his head. And lastly, the hat, which I anchored so firmly under his chin that his mouth snapped shut every time he opened it.

He looked magnificent, and I left him at the party confident that he would be able to command more respect among the Spidermen and Supermen as a wizard, than he had ever been able to do as a poached egg.

The party was good fun he told me. He had to take off the mask almost as soon as he arrived because his crisps wouldn't go through the mouth hole. He took the cloak off soon after, too, because it strangled him when he sat down and he can't remember what happened to the hat.

MAJOR DISPOSAL AUCTION TO AVOID INSOLVENCY

PERSIAN CARPETS

rugs and runners... and others from the more important weaving centres of the East. Included are many antiques, silks, kelim, nomads and other unusual items, not generally to be found on the home market.

City Merchant Bankers have suspended export and home market transactions of Persian Carpet Trading Co. Ltd. (Established 1954). They have instructed the auctioneers to realise at hammer prices the entire stocks in bonded warehouses. This is a move prior to foreclosure.

Every item guaranteed authentic. Expert advice available at time of viewing. To be transferred from bonded warehouses and offered at HILTON INTERNATIONAL HOTEL, KENSINGTON, ROLLAND PARK AVENUE, LONDON W11 SUNDAY 22 DECEMBER at 3.00pm. Viewing from noon same day.

Payment: cash, cheque or all major credit cards. Auctioneers: A. Wellesley Bidcoe & Partners Ltd., 144/146 New Bond Street, London W1.



THE TIMES DIARY

Bang to rights

So James Anderton, the Greater Manchester chief constable is said to have complained that much of his local police committee business was a "total sham" and that the authority often had a "negative nature and disruptive influence" on police work. In March the police committee was described rather differently as "consistently providing its police force with first-class buildings, equipment and communications which are viewed with envy. No reasonable proposal of the chief constable for improving the effectiveness of the force has ever been poorly received." Who said so? You guessed it.

Honours uneven

Embarrassment reigned at Glasgow University yesterday as it sought to withdraw its announcement awarding an honorary degree to political philosopher John Rawls. Dr Rawls, a Harvard highbrow currently in danger of being taken up by British Social Democrats in search of an ideological mentor, had just declined the offer. Had his elaborate sense of social equity led him to eschew the tinsel tribute? More likely, I am told, he simply did not fancy the journey across the Atlantic to receive the degree next June.

Band wagon

The GLC panto, *Robin Hood and his Merry Men*, was an evident success on Wednesday night. This must have been a relief to its producer, Nita Clarke, Ken Livingstone's press officer. During rehearsals she had to meet a delegation of GLC trade union leaders who were not a little disturbed at the prospect of councillors laughing and dancing on stage while their members' jobs are about to be abolished. Much debate ensued. The unions acquiesced only when told that the show would raise some £2,000 for Band Aid.

Cop-out

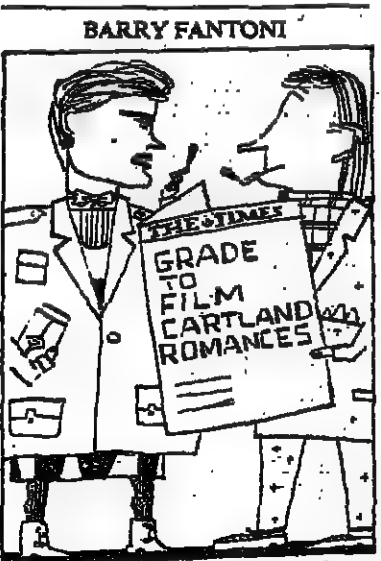
Dubious things, these left-wing police monitoring groups. Don't take my word for it. Take that of Peter Pitt, a senior GLC Labour councillor and chair of its anti-racism committee. He has just resigned from the GLC police committee because it has given a £20,000 grant to the Homeless group in his ward. This group, he insists, is highly sectarian, totally unrepresentative of the community, and every bit as unaccountable as the police themselves.

Clean-up drive

The Transport Minister, Lynda Chalker, seems to be adopting a distinctly personal approach to her job. A lorry driver on his way to Lincoln from Newark in Nottinghamshire, got the shock of his life when, stuck in a traffic queue behind him, she got out and handed him a note telling him his lights were filthy.

Memorable

The Freedom of Information Campaign holds a rally to mark the 75th anniversary of the Official Secrets Act on January 14. The organizers have pulled off something of a coup. Sarah Tisdall and *Guardian* editor Piers Preston will be appearing on the same platform for the first time since he returned to the government. The memorandum leaked by her and published in his paper, a move which led to her arrest.



Silent right

The mayor of Labour-controlled Lambeth, Lloyd Leon, is under threat of being debarred from chairing the council because of his refusal to complete a compulsory register of councillors' pecuniary and personal interests. The council ruled earlier this month that failure to disclose all debar members from chairing or voting on any committee. Besides financial interests, the register demands to know who belongs to such groups as the Freemasons, Catenians (a lay Catholic group), Lions and even allotment societies. Leon, who is seeking legal advice on his rights to continue chairing the council, is adamant: "For me, it is a matter of principle. There is freedom of information and freedom of individuals. If I am asked what my spouse's earnings are, that is my bloody business. (The register does not actually demand such information.) The demand such information." The other two Labour councillors who have refused to tell all are Ms Horstead and Stuart Casbread. Eleven other Labour members are similarly debarred because of invalid forms.

Student grants - the alternative

by Phil Woolas

Back in 1978, a Conservative student union officer received a reply from a former Secretary of State for Education in an inquiry about the state of the student grant system. The letter promised that a future Conservative administration would undertake a complete review of student grants, adding: "In that review, highest priority will go to reduction in the parental contribution."

Margaret Thatcher, the former minister in question, recognised the mess the grants system was in before she became Prime Minister. The problem is that since then nothing has happened to halt the decline - in fact the situation is now much worse. The government has presided over the erosion of the real value of the student grant by some 20 per cent, a dramatic increase in the burden of student support on the family, and the denial of welfare benefits to low-income students. The long-promised review has been shelved once again.

The latest blow - the announcement earlier this week of a derisory 2 per cent grant increase and the removal of access to supplementary and other benefits - comes just 12 months after the Conservative backbench revolt over plans by Sir Keith Joseph, Secretary of State for Education, to charge parents for tuition fees. For all his public humiliation Sir Keith got away with a sharp rise in the parental contribution which hit not "rich" but middle-income professional families whose children take up the

majority of higher education places. The latest changes to student entitlement to social security will have the net effect of reducing student income by a fifth, on top of the 20 per cent reduction.

Out of the ashes of the tuition fees debate rose the long-awaited review. It was clear from the start, however, that Sir Keith's preferred option was for the introduction of student loans, based on the North American and West European model. The argument was that loans would free the taxpayer of the burden of student support, while widening access to working-class participants.

Some basic research of loans schemes abroad, conducted by the NUS, has highlighted the inherent weakness of these arguments, however. Loans are in fact more expensive to the taxpayer - a point taken up by the Cabinet when it subsequently dropped the idea - and work against students from low-income groups. The other argument for loans - that students should pay for the privilege of higher education once they graduate - has no real foundation, because that situation already exists. It's called the progressive taxation system.

During the summer, loans were publicly abandoned once again, and more recently the whole review was quietly put to death, much to the displeasure of a number of backbench Conservative MPs. It clearly did not please Norman Fowler

either, part of whose review of social security rested on the premise that all forms of student finance would be brought under the roof of one government department.

The social security White Paper has since appeared without any real promise of extra support to make up for cuts in the estimated £500 per year supplementary benefits claimed by the average student to cope with dwindling income and rising costs.

The picture facing students is increasingly bleak, as they are pushed further back into dependence on their parents. The pressure is now on to pick a college for its geographical location - near to home or to cheap local housing - rather than academic excellence.

Recently the three main opposition parties have come up with alternatives to Sir Keith's non-existent review, many of which echo ideas held by the National Union of Students. For instance, we recommend the introduction of a basic education and training allowance for all students in post-school education. This would remove the cruel irony of young people being better off on the dole or on questionable training schemes than by attempting to equip themselves with the advantages of further education.

The government must also address itself to the fundamental question of the parental contribution. Research has proved that it is the student who ultimately loses

out if parents are unable or unwilling to pay the assessed amount. A survey of undergraduate income revealed that almost half of students receive less than the amount due, with a high proportion getting little or nothing. Rejuggling the contribution scales simply passes the hardship on to the student.

The question must be asked - why should parents have to continue to support a young adult into his or her early twenties, while still paying towards the education system via a progressive tax system? And why should a student be forced back into the family home when in all other respects he or she is treated as a mature adult?

The phenomenon of the student protest has appeared as a factor in British politics, as was clearly seen just 12 months ago. The combination of rightful student indignation and the feeling of betrayal among parents is a lobby which cannot be ignored, as Sir Keith found to his cost.

The changes to social security entitlement will not only cause many of the government's natural followers to rethink their attitudes to present economic policy, but will seriously damage the quality of education for hundreds of thousands of young people.

Constructive alternatives to the present chaotic and inadequate grants system have widespread support. Surely Mrs Thatcher and Sir Keith Joseph have no mandate to ignore them.

The author is president of the National Union of Students.

Church report: the real flaw

David Watt

The most striking thing about the report of the Archbishop of Canterbury's Commission on the Inner Cities is that it lacks authority. This is true in the purely formal sense that the Commission does not and cannot speak for the Church but only to it. Both its detractors and defenders refer to it, mindlessly, as "the Archbishop's report"; it is not even that. It represents the consensus of a group of whom the majority are sociologists and social workers and only the minority clerics, according to the preface, two of its members are not Anglicans.

This does not mean that the report's recommendations are necessarily wrong or that they have been more likely to be right if all the members had been bishops or even archbishops. On the contrary, its detailed programme of reform would not have carried any more presumption of being right than that of any other intelligent laymen.

This point was explained with brilliant clarity in a small book called *Christianity and Social Order*, written by Archbishop William Temple as a Penguin "special" in 1942: "The Church must announce Christian principles and point out where the existing social order at any time is in conflict with them. It must then pass on to Christian citizens, acting in their civic capacity, the task of reshaping the existing order to conform to the principles. For this part technical knowledge may be required."

The mixed nature of the commission has resulted in its recommendation falling between two stools. Its purely social analysis makes out a familiar case well enough, but is terribly disappointing in its lack of breadth and originality and detail.

On the moral level it is better, but the ecclesiastical force of its Christian attack is diminished by the presence of so many lay sociologists on the panel and by the lack of self-confidence with which the theological arguments are advanced.

Instead of Temple's diamond-hard clarity, the case is blurred. There is the genuflection in the direction of a number of fashionable trends that are not actually necessary to the argument - Liberation Theology in the Third World, for instance, and the notion that dogma (without which, as Temple remarks, the Church is simply a collection of well-meaning individuals) is "academic", elitist and, therefore, secondary to other forms of religious experience.

The report actually seems to imply that these ideas are necessary to the "emergence of a theology which would provide an authentic basis for a Christian critique of contemporary society" - as if there were not more than enough in traditional Church of England theology to provide a devastating critique if the modern clergy only had the brains and gumption to project it.

There is a worrying loss of intellectual nerve here. What the commission is saying, it seems to me, is that the values on which Mrs Thatcher is trying to base the revival of the country are at least in danger of becoming un-Christian - in the creation of wealth, the principle of just distribution has been forgotten; in the concept of efficiency, the principles of responsibility and trust; in the notion of a free market, the idea of fellowship.

This thought, irritating though it is to Conservatives, is undoubtedly true. The Puritan ethic has always been difficult to reconcile with the principles of the Founder, and was barely saved from monstrosity, during the industrial revolution, by a surviving religious element of charity and humility. In a grossly secular society with that element leached out of it, it can be morally terrifying.

Just so. Where cities are concerned, the sociologists on the commission are (no doubt Christian) "engineers"; the clergy on the panel are theologians with considerable expertise in diocesan organization and some pretensions to expertise in urban renewal.

But what about their theological qualifications? Temple's careful disclaimer of any ecclesiastical right to dictate detailed solutions to social problems was specifically intended to clear the ground for an assertion of the Church's right and duty to state the Christian principles on which society should be ordered and to admonish governments if they do not appear to be following them.

He himself excoriated bad housing, malnutrition and above all, unemployment because they offend against natural justice and a Christian concept of fellowship and also because they make it harder for people to worship God. In consequence, he was duly and fiercely attacked by Conservative politicians for "improper interference". But because he was on solid jurisdictional ground the criticisms bounced off him - and his book, a bestseller, achieved its purpose of influencing the climate in which the postwar welfare state was created.

Faith in the City attempts, but I think fails, to do the same thing - and it is the reasons for its failure that provide the wide and rather depressing implications that are worth pondering this Christmas.

John Pugh looks behind the recent killing of a Seychelles opposition leader

Duel for the hand of Paradise

Last month, on Friday, November 29, Gerard Hoareau was assassinated in a London suburb. Hoareau was leader of the Seychelles Mouvement pour la Resistance, a party in exile dedicated to overthrowing the present Seychelles government and to restoring democracy in these tiny, beautiful islands.

James Mancham, the first president of an independent Seychelles, was deposed on the eve of the Commonwealth Conference in London in 1977.

When Mancham had left the Seychelles capital, the airport was flooded, the guard of honour looked smart, the band played, ambassadors and others stood about. At the foot of the aircraft steps Albert René, the prime minister, embraced his president. Mancham subsequently called this action "the kiss of Judas".



Context to the death for the 'Garden of Eden'... the assassinated politician Gerard Hoareau (left), Mad Mike Hoare and Albert René (right).

For Mancham never came back. The following night Albert René, helped by Tanzanian arms and mercenaries, took over. The coup was virtually bloodless - three Seychellois deaths and a number of deportations, mostly of policemen.

René set about making the Seychelles a model socialist state. Like others before him, he genuinely believed that his coup would be greeted with relief by an adoring population. He was wrong.

René had misjudged the strength of political loyalty to Mancham just as the British government, in the run-up to independence, had misjudged the political intransigence of René.

Prior to independence in 1976, two political parties, battled for supremacy. One, presided over by René, was loud in its demands for independence; the other, led by Mancham, was content to remain an appendage of the Crown.

The elections divided the population fairly equally. The British government, anxious to bustle every without delay, persuaded the two parties to form a coalition and to enter statehood as a republic. Mancham was to be president and René prime minister.

The arrangement suited neither very much, but while Mancham looked on the bright side, René secretly made plans. He was given leave by Julius Nyerere to train a small band of commandos in Tanzania. Less than a year later, on a dark and moonless night, his force landed from the sea and quickly captured every strategic position.

René embarked on a policy of free education, state welfare and equal opportunity under the benevolent supervision of a one-party state. The policy produced some gratifying results, but it cannot be said eight years later to have been a great success.

In time, the centre of René's anxiety moved overseas. There were soon monitoring techniques which in Kenya, Britain, France and Australia. Like the White Russians,

they talk constantly of a return to their homeland, and incessantly plan counter-coups, but unlike the White Russians they actually mount serious attempts to carry them out.

As René's alarm grew, additional companies of Tanzanian troops were brought from Dar es Salaam. They remained in the Seychelles until Tanzania's meagre exchequer could no longer stand the strain. They have now been replaced by North Korean troops.

Mancham himself was vigorous in his plans to return in the days following his overthrow - a time, before René's security machine was properly installed, when he might have succeeded. But he got cold feet.

There have been attempts to depose René - the best remembered being the somewhat inadequate effort of Mad Mike Hoare in 1981. The French influential in the Seychelles, was involved in another abortive attempt.

The major difficulty facing a leader of a coup is an obvious one - of raising the element of surprise. The Seychelles are heavily guarded islands, one thousand miles from

The large middle class in the Seychelles had no appetite for equality and distrusted the young Marxist ideologues with whom René surrounded himself. State supervision became increasingly less benevolent. Those who continued to speak out against the régime were deported or forced to flee. Others were put in jail, and some disappeared in mysterious circumstances.

René was acutely dismayed at the continuing opposition to his socialist dream. He sought to induce dissidents to co-operate. Hoareau himself was given the post of chief immigration officer. Although a less influential post than that of undersecretary in foreign affairs, which he held under Mancham, it was better paid. But Hoareau, like others of his ilk, continued to show active opposition until he was imprisoned and then deported.

whole of Soviet territory could be covered effectively.

Dr Leggett, national co-ordinator for a newly-established information centre on nuclear verification called Veritic, also points out that verification need not depend on seismology alone. For instance, if the Russians wanted to build a secret new underground site to test even a small weapon, they would have to excavate an area the size of the largest Egyptian pyramid at a depth of more than one mile. An engineering operation of this size would be easily detectable by satellite.

Despite assertions from such authorities as Dr Jack Evernden, of the US Geological Survey, that "there is no technical obstacle to the negotiation of a verifiable CTBT", the American and British governments continue to cite verification problems as the reason why they oppose a resumption of CTBT negotiations.

It was an argument they deployed when they found themselves isolated at the 130-nation review conference of the 1970 Non-Proliferation Treaty in Geneva last September when all the other participants called for a resumption of the CTBT talks before the end of this year.

Timothy Renton, the Foreign Office minister responsible for arms control issues, reiterated the point in the Commons the other day when he told a questioner: "We are not yet

convinced that verification developments can lead to a foolproof test ban system."

These doubts are not shared by Opposition leaders, or even by some Conservative MPs, who feel the government is being unnecessarily rigid on this point. Denis Healey and David Owen, among others, have urged Britain to take the lead in pressing for a resumption of the test ban talks. They believe British reluctance to do so is essentially political.

Britain appears to be deferring to the wishes of the Americans, who do not disguise the fact that they need to continue testing in order to complete President Reagan's modernization programme, particularly the MX missile, the Midgame mobile missile and "pop-up" X-ray laser weapons associated with the Star Wars space defence plan. And Britain will almost certainly have to carry out tests of its own when the new Trident submarines, equipped with the multi-warheaded SS-5 missiles, start coming into service.

The Anglo-American refusal to resume talks has allowed the Soviet Union to gain some moral advantage in the continuing propaganda war between East and West. Moscow has said repeatedly that it is ready to resume CTBT talks at any time. Britain and the US insist that they are not.

Nicholas Ashford
Diplomatic correspondent

moreover... Miles Kingdon

Free slips come sailing in

Christmas is a time for celebration, a time for laughter and giving. A time for gaiety and fun (writes Len Splint). All year long he works alone, and alone he celebrates. If you should see him in your restaurant, why not ask him over to your table? In fact, why not ask me over to your table? I'm five foot eight, with small moustache, and I have a pink bow-tie. Things haven't been too good recently, actually, a couple of sketches on *Week Ending*, a piece nearly taken by *Punch* and that's it. Next Monday I'll be at table number 8 in... (That will do, writes Lord Moreover. Next!)

Did you enjoy Guy Fawkes Day? I expect you did. It's a time for celebration and happiness. But have you ever thought what happens during the rest of the year to fireworks manufacturers? Especially at Christmas, when nobody, but nobody, lets off any fireworks? (writes Sir Otto Jasper, chairman of the British Fireworks Makers). This year, why not have a Christmas with a difference?

Been carol-singing this year? Blimey, it was murrer, wasn't it? Trying to do O Come All Ye Faithful down an Entrophyone is bad enough, but having dogs set on you, meeting up pair girls who can't speak English, and being chased off by armed retainers at Moreover Towers - well, it shatters your faith in the festive season. So here's what we're going to do instead (writes Keith and Brian Whitlock, brothers of Watford). You send us the money first - then we'll come and sing carols afterwards. Can't say fairer than that, can you?

(Sorry about the fracas at More-over Towers, writes Lord Moreover. Had a bit of trouble with the taxman recently, and we thought it was another marauding gang from the Inland Revenue. Tell you what, lads, here's a fiver for you and no questions asked, eh? Anyway, dear reader, you see that it is possible to get money out of people at Christmas time, though only just. If you want your charity mentioned in *Moreover*, just write and tell us. And don't forget the blank cheque. Happy Christmas, everybody.)

But cast your eyes over at that table there, where one man sits all by himself, tucking into his quiche and two veg, reading a copy of *The Times*. No friend has he, no company with whom to share those blessed memories. Watch how he takes a cracker from his pocket and pulls it with both hands. See how his trembling hands put on a lone paper hat. Who is this solitary example of melancholy manhood? (Well, who is it?)

(Hello, hello. Here comes the appeal for funds.)

But all this work needs money... (Thank you, writes Lord Moreover. We'll let you know. Next please.)

You know, at Christmas time the restaurants are full of groups of eight, 10, 12, even more, all celebrating the seasonal spirit with office party lunches. Long after three o'clock they still sit there, ordering another round of brandy, letting the milk of human kindness flow out in their veins with French spirit (writes Len Splint).

Indian voters give Rajiv's party mauling across the nation

From Our Own Correspondent, Delhi

Results from this week's state and national elections show that the country's ruling Congress (I) Party has suffered an erosion of votes all across the nation. Although it won four of the seven by-elections to the Lok Sabha, the lower house of the national Parliament, its vote slumped in all the contests, from Rajasthan in the west to Upper Assam in the far north east.

Even though the Congress candidate in South Delhi was the popular and well-known former Governor of Punjab, Mr Arjun Singh, who has recently been appointed a Cabinet minister, the party's majority dropped from 80,000 this time last year, when Mr Lali Maken was elected (he was later assassinated by Sikh extremists) to 30,000 this time.

The party's worst result was in Kishanganj seat in Bihar, where a Congress majority of more than 100,000 votes was turned into a Janata party majority of 73,718.

In Assam the party has been badly mauled. Although it is still too early to say whether the newly-formed Asom Gana Parishad (Assam People's Council) will have an overall majority, it is plain that

Congress has been humiliated. Out of 105 of the 125 seats declared by last night, the AGP has won 55, and Congress (I) only 21.

The Muslim-dominated United Minorities Front, also newly-formed but created to protest against the Assam Accord, was the third largest party with 12 seats. The front declared that it would not co-operate with anybody supporting the accord over the foreigners issue. That effectively seemed to rule out any possibility of Congress (I) putting together a coalition to keep the AGP out of power.

None of the AGP members has any administrative experience. The party was formed by leaders of the student agitation against the presence of foreigners in the state.

The secretary general of the UNMF, who was one of the winners, Mr A F Ghulam Osman, spelled out again his party's commitment to continue its struggle against the accord both inside and outside the legislature.

He appealed to the minorities to resist what he called "sectarian, racial and inegalitarian assaults" on them.

Sikh pact leads to clashes in Delhi

From Michael Hamlyn, Delhi

The processional heart of Delhi was briefly cut off from the rest of the city yesterday as thousands of farmers from the state of Haryana defied the authorities to protest against the accord with the leaders of the Sikhs which brought peace and elections to Punjab. Teargas and a baton charge were used to restrain the demonstrators.

The protest was the first sign of what threatens to be a long drawn out war against the agreement by the people of the Hindu-dominated state, who resent what they see as the selling out of their rights to placate the Sikhs. Several thorny issues between the two states remain the subject of special commissions to which they were referred under the accord. When the commissions report, further agitation may be expected.

Haryana still has not reconciled itself fully to the loss of Chandigarh as its capital (it has held it jointly with Punjab since Hindu Haryana was hived off from Greater Punjab) and a proposal to exchange it for two other Hindi-speaking villages has not yet been agreed.

Yesterday's demonstration was held at the junction of the Raj Path (which used to be known as King's Way) and the roads leading to the Parliament building. The farmers marched towards Parliament from Old



One of several clashes near the Delhi Parliament yesterday between police and Hindu farmers angry over the accord with Sikh leaders.

Delhi carrying placards and shouting slogans, and then, in the jargon of active politics here, "courted arrest".

The police obliged those courting arrest by briefly detaining as many as 10,000 of

them, and firing tear gas to break up the demonstration. Later Opposition leaders in Parliament staged a walk out of the Upper House, the Rajya Sabha, or States Assembly, protesting at the central Government's neglect of

Haryana's interests in the aftermath of the Punjab agreement. Mr S. C. Mohanta of the Lok Dal demanded that the state be given 10 billion rupees (£600 million) to build itself a new capital. Then he led his colleagues out of the chamber.

Quebec's Liberals swift to cut taxes and go for growth

From John Best, Ottawa

The new Liberal Government of Quebec, in office only six days, has introduced a budget that cuts personal taxes and tells investors - in the words of Mr Gerard Levesque, the Finance Minister - that Quebec wants to be more competitive again.

About 700,000 Quebecois with taxable incomes of more than Can\$17,360 (about £8,600) are expected to benefit from the reduction in individual tax rates. For a family of four with an income of \$30,000 the saving will be \$548.

The budget abolishes the province's 9 per cent sales tax on life insurance premiums, as well as 10 per cent surtax on petrol, fuel oil and propane gas sold in outlying areas.

Most of the measures had been promised by the Premier, Mr Robert Bourassa, during the campaign leading up to the election on December 2 which brought the Liberals back to power and ended the nine-year reign of the leftist Parti Quebecois.

The measures mean Quebec will no longer be Canada's highest taxed province, which dubious distinction now belongs to Manitoba.

Expenditure is to be cut for the rest of this fiscal year, ending March 31, to reduce the budgetary deficit by \$90 million to \$3.145 billion.

Mr Levesque told the National Assembly: "This statement will be a definite signal to

investors that there is a change in the new Government's approach to economic and financial matters, that we want to put the emphasis on economic growth and employment. We want Quebec to be more competitive than ever."

The speech was in tune with the businesslike orientation the Government has struck since it took office on December 12. More than half the 28 members of the Cabinet have business backgrounds.

Four days after the new ministry was sworn in Ms Lisa Bacon, the Vice-Premier, declared in the Government's inaugural address: "The state is no longer and will no longer be as much as before the driving force of social change."

The business theme so companies renewed emphasis on Quebec's place in the Canadian Confederation. A separatist philosophy animated the Parti Quebecois through most of its time in office, though not at the end.

The most eloquent symbol of the new-found spirit of federalism is the return of the Canadian flag to its former place by the Speaker's chair in the Assembly. Mr Bourassa has made clear that he wants to move swiftly to open constitutional negotiations with the Federal Government. Predominantly French-speaking Quebec did not adhere to the new Canadian constitution.

Court rules for snap election

Aquino campaign draws crowds

By Our South East Asia Correspondent

More than 20 million Filipinos will go to the polls to elect a new president on February 7 following a Supreme Court ruling that yesterday swept aside constitutional objections to the election.

The Manila court ruled 7 to 5 in favour of upholding the Bill giving effect to the snap election called by President Ferdinand Marcos in a bid to extend his 20-year rule until 1992.

Opposition politicians and lawyers appealed to the Supreme Court to halt the proposed poll on the grounds that it defies the country's 1973 constitution, which requires the President to resign before voting takes place. President Marcos has submitted a post-dated letter of resignation that will only take effect if he loses.

Judges leaving the secret court room hearing agreed "the election will go on," which is just as well, as the leading contenders are well into their second week of campaigning.

Mrs Corason Aquino, aged 52, the main opposition candidate and her vice-presidential running mate, 37-year-old Mr Salvador Laurel, were reported to be drawing big crowds on the southern island of Mindanao. Mrs Aquino, widow of the

murdered opposition leader Mr Benigno Aquino, slain on the tarmac at Manila airport two years ago on his return from exile in the United States, is a self-confessed political novice, but her charisma might achieve the biggest upset in Filipino politics since independence 40 years ago.

Mr Homobono Adaza, opposition MP for the Mindanao Alliance Party, greeted the court decision with the words: "This is a time for national rejoicing."

In the meantime, the election is in full swing. Mr Marcos, aged 68, and not in the best of health, has made two early forays into the countryside and said on the hustings that an opposition victory would bring 10 years of dangerous instability, "which may be worse than the present bloodshed."

Some 5,000 people have died this year as the 17-year-old insurgency by the communist New People's Army intensifies, and the need to step up the Government's efforts to halt the slide towards civil war has been cited by President Marcos as the key factor in his decision to seek a fresh mandate 18 months before his term expires.

Woman gets artificial heart

Minneapolis (AP) - The first woman to receive an artificial heart was in "critical but stable condition" yesterday after surgeons implanted a smaller version of a device previously used in men.

The patient, a secretary aged 40, was gravely ill from an infection of the heart called viral myocarditis, an administrator at the Abbott-North-Western Hospital, said.

"The surgery for implantation was successfully completed earlier this morning. The patient is currently being monitored post-operatively," she said. "Without immediate intervention she had no opportunity for life."

The woman, who had no history of heart disease, was admitted to the hospital late Tuesday and her condition continued to deteriorate. Her name has not been released at her family's request. She will keep the device until a human heart can be found.

The artificial heart is 30 per cent smaller than the plastic-and-metal Jarvik 7 pump used in male patients.

The hospital said it was the first time surgeons had used the smaller device, which can fit into the chests of patients weighing less than 150lb.

Governor is cleared in fraud trial

New York - The Governor of Louisiana, who made \$2 million (£1.4 million) out of a hospital building enterprise, was freed yesterday after the jury failed to agree at his trial on fraud and racketeering charges (Trevor Fishlock writes).

Mr Edwin Edwards, aged 58, maintained that he had done nothing wrong in making the money. He described the outcome of the three-month trial in New Orleans as a vindication. As his supporters cheered loudly, he said he would run for a fourth term as Governor in 1987.

The gum-chewing Governor, whose happy-go-lucky demeanour and wily box stories of his gambling exploits brightened the court proceedings, said at a press conference: "How sweet it is... I have just won the most important election of my life."

The Governor and four other men, including his brother, were alleged by the prosecution to have profited from a hospital development scheme approved in 1982-83 when the Governor was out of office. The prosecution said it was a bribery case. Mr Edwards said it was a political vendetta.

Expelled doctors protest at 'brutal resettlement'

From Charles Harrison, Nairobi

Leaders of the French Frontiers, Médecins Sans Frontières, which has been expelled from Ethiopia after criticizing the Ethiopian Government's programme of mass resettlement, said here yesterday that they could not remain silent when official Ethiopian policies had killed at least 100,000 people.

Dr René Brauman, president of Médecins Sans Frontières, and its Director, M Francois Charbon, told a press conference here they had not criticized the resettlement idea, but had objected to the programme

being carried out in an inhumane and brutal manner that had caused thousands of deaths.

Dr Brauman said the Ethiopian authorities for months had refused them permission to open feeding centres, which were vitally needed to save lives among famine victims in Wollo province.

"It was clear that the resettlement operation was the Government's number one priority, and they were not concerned with saving lives," he said.

Now you're sitting comfortably. We'll begin.



60% of bus stops now have shelters - and many have seats.

The following is a success story. (Well, we think so.) It began in 1984 with the formation of London Regional Transport. Since then things have been happening quickly.

Positive things to improve London's bus and Tube systems.

The targets which we set for our first year have been achieved or beaten.

We are running more trains on the Underground.

We've improved the travelling environment.

Business is buoyant. More and more passengers are using our popular Travelcards and other money-saving tickets.

And we're cutting costs, too.

Which means we're having to rely less and less on the ratepayer and the taxpayer, so the whole community is better off. That's why the Secretary of State for Transport was able to announce this week that next year Londoners will have a 9% cut in the rates they pay for L.R.T. services.

It's a plan we mean to continue - building on our success.

Next year the Metropolitan, Piccadilly and District Lines will enjoy a more frequent service.

We'll be extending the Underground to the new Terminal 4 at Heathrow, and continuing to modernize other stations.

Bus services will be maintained overall at their present levels - and we'll try to improve punctuality, despite the traffic problems.

We'll be introducing the first of a fleet of new buses that make it easier for everyone, including the elderly and disabled people, to get out and about.

And we'll carry on bringing our costs down where we can, but holding fares broadly in line with inflation.

That makes it possible to increase

investment, and so improve further our own efficiency and the travelling environment for our passengers.

If you would like to read more about this success story, write to us at the address below and we'll send you a free copy of our Annual Business Plan for 1986/7,

giving all the facts and figures.



Next year will see modernization work completed at another 41 stations.



Our trains are cleaner with 'No Smoking'.

LONDON REGIONAL TRANSPORT



David Bayliss, Director of Planning, London Regional Transport, 55 Broadway, London SW1 0BD.

SPECTRUM

Blacks now account for almost half of South Africa's police force and are being used as a buffer against the violence

Easy targets who hold the frontline

During the 15 months of unrest, black has killed black and many victims have been police, councillors and "collaborators", reports Michael Hornsby

"Kill A Cop For Jesus" - proclaimed one of the more eye-catching graffiti slogans in the Cape Peninsula's turbulent mixed-race "coloured" ghettos, accurately catching the mixture of revolutionary fervour and religious sentiment that is an explosive element in the anti-government turmoil sweeping South Africa.

The anonymous author of this murderous injunction is as likely to have had a black "top" in mind as a white one. The systematic way in which black members of the state's security and administrative apparatus have been singled out for attack has been one of the distinguishing features of the past 15 months of unrest in which more than 900 people have been killed in black townships across the country.

Black policemen and township councillors are at the top of the list of "collaborators" in the eyes of the angry and militant young blacks who have taken over effective control of many of the ghettos and regard any form of association or co-operation with "the system" as a betrayal of the cause of liberation.

Elaborate legal controls, as well as the enforced geographical separation and isolation of many African townships, limits the capacity of blacks to strike out at white authority beyond their own communities. In past outbreaks of revolt, administrative buildings manned by white officials, schools and buses were the main targets.

In striking directly at blacks in the state machinery, the latest generation of youthful would-be revolutionaries have not only found a target that is accessible, but are also undermining a vital pillar of the government's increasingly sophisticated divide-and-rule strategy: the inclusion of non-whites in the lower echelons of the state apparatus where, it is hoped, they will act as buffers between the white elite and the masses.

6 There are too few whites to meet police requirements

Blacks now account for almost half the authorised establishment of the police force. At mid-1984 this stood at 45,961 men and women, of whom 22,964 were black, mainly Africans, but also Coloureds and Indians. Whites still dominate the officer corps, but as of May of this year there were 67 black officers, two of whom had attained the rank of colonel. Of the 830 police stations in South Africa, 64 in black rural and urban areas were said to be manned and run entirely by blacks.

The police force has shown much less caution about arming the non-white racial majority than the military, which has not recruited blacks on any scale except in South Africa-occupied Namibia where some 60 per cent of the troops deployed along the Namibian-Angolan frontier are now drawn from the local population.

The high level of black recruitment by the police is partly a matter of straightforward demographic arithmetic: there are simply not enough whites available to meet all the government's growing military, police and economic manpower requirements.

The unrest in the townships has put a severe strain on the police. Some 6,000 policemen, according to the Minister of Law and Order, Mr Louis Le Grange, have had to be diverted permanently from normal police duties to combat unrest. The railway police, an autonomous force normally used mainly for guarding harbours and airports, border police and the army have all had to be deployed in support of the regular force in the townships.

If the growing reliance on blacks to make up police numbers - the force is to be expanded by 11,000 men over the next year and a half - has its dangers from Pretoria's point of view, there are



Ready for attack: a black policeman reports for duty

also advantages. Direct confrontation between white and black can be minimized by delegating the task of enforcing the law in African, Coloured and Indian areas to policemen of those race groups. Inter-tribal rivalry can even be exploited, as appears to have happened in the Eastern Cape earlier this year when Zulu police units were alleged to have been brought in to put down unrest in an area predominantly populated by Xhosa.

Hitherto, the police force has found little difficulty in attracting black recruits. This is not particularly surprising. For a would-be upwardly mobile black, particularly if he comes from a rural background with only a primary school education and no legal permit to be in a "white" urban area, South Africa's apartheid society is not exactly bristling with career opportunities. The police force is one of the few channels of advancement on offer,

all the more so at a time of recession and high unemployment.

The police recruit's pay - blacks are paid on the same scale as whites - is likely to be substantially better than anything he would be likely to command on the open job market, quite apart from such perks as virtually free housing and medical care, paid leave and a pension on retirement. There is also status. A black policeman handing out a speeding ticket to a white motorist is one of the rare examples in South Africa of a black exercising direct authority over a white.

Black policemen live in the townships they serve. They are also linked in the government's intelligence network which keeps tabs on black political activists through paid informers and spies who infiltrate black organisations. Although they have been occasional targets of anti-government violence in the past, it is only in the last year or so

that black policemen have been singled out in a quite deliberate way.

According to a recent statement by Mr Le Grange, 27 policemen (so far as is known none of them white) have been killed since serious unrest began in September, 1984, and over the same period the homes of 550 black policemen have been destroyed, many in petrol bomb or hand grenade attacks. The families of 100 policemen are still being temporarily housed in tents.

Separate figures collated from press reports and police bulletins by the South African Institute of Race Relations (see tables) only show 18 police deaths up to the end of October. Whichever is the right figure, life has clearly become much more uncomfortable for black policemen. There is no doubt about the hostility they arouse in many township residents. "They live with us, they drink with us in the shebeens and then they come and kill us", Ernest Moni, an angry, jobless black youth in Langa, near Uitenhage, told me.

Township councillors are the other main target of popular wrath. The government set up councils in the townships, partly to distance itself from local administration of the non-white population, partly as a substitute for real black political rights. They are supposedly autonomous elected bodies, but the turnout at elections has often been less than 10 per cent and almost never more than 20 per cent.

Built as dormitory satellites of "white" towns, the townships have few amenities and no financial resources of their own, other than what is exacted from their residents in rent and charges for water, electricity and other, usually completely inadequate, services. The main task of the hapless township councils is to implement increases in rent and other payments decided on by the white authorities.

6 Suspected informers are bound, beaten and set alight

Proposed rent increases were the trigger which detonated violence in Sharpeville and the other Vaal Triangle townships south of Johannesburg in September of last year. More than a year later, some 350,000 residents of six of these townships are still refusing to pay any rent, a loss to the government of rands two million (£540,000) a month.

Four councillors, including the deputy mayor of Sharpeville, were hanged, stoned or beaten to death in that first week of riot. There is no exact record since then, but at least 12 councillors in different parts of the country are known to have been killed to date. Scores have seen their homes destroyed, and at the time the state of emergency was imposed on July 21 at least 230 councillors across the country were known to have resigned.

Nor are these easily identifiable symbols of "the system" the only targets of black anger, which can be directed at anyone held to be co-operating with apartheid. People suspected of being informers - however tenuous the evidence, housewives violating consumer boycotts of white shops, or schoolchildren who sit end of term exams in defiance of school boycotts, all run the risk of what is known in township parlance as the "necklace", a rubber tyre placed round the bound or beaten victim's neck and set alight.

In response, township councillors in some areas, apparently with the approval of the local police, have formed their own vigilante squads, which are suspected of the murder of anti-government activists, many of whom have also died in feuding between different black political factions. Pimping direct blame for the killings in the increasingly murky currents and cross-currents of township violence has become almost impossible.

SOUTH AFRICA'S DEATH TOLL

The exact number of people killed during unrest in South Africa over the past 15 months is not known. Many deaths, especially at peak periods of unrest, may have gone unrecorded. Official police figures often differ sharply from those given by black community leaders.

In the case of black-on-black killings, a marked feature of the unrest, political motivation is not always easy to separate from the purely criminal. There are also many mysteries - including some blacks whose death or disappearance is widely blamed on government agents or sympathizers.

The figures in this survey should be taken as an estimate only. They are based on statistics compiled by the South African Institute of Race Relations from police bulletins and reports in the local press, supplemented by *The Times*'s own records.

The figures show that 149 people died in the last four months of 1984 and 816 from January 1 up to December 10 of 1985 - a total of 965 over the whole period, all but a handful of them blacks, Coloureds or Indians. Almost all the violence has been contained within the township ghettos set apart from white towns for habitation by

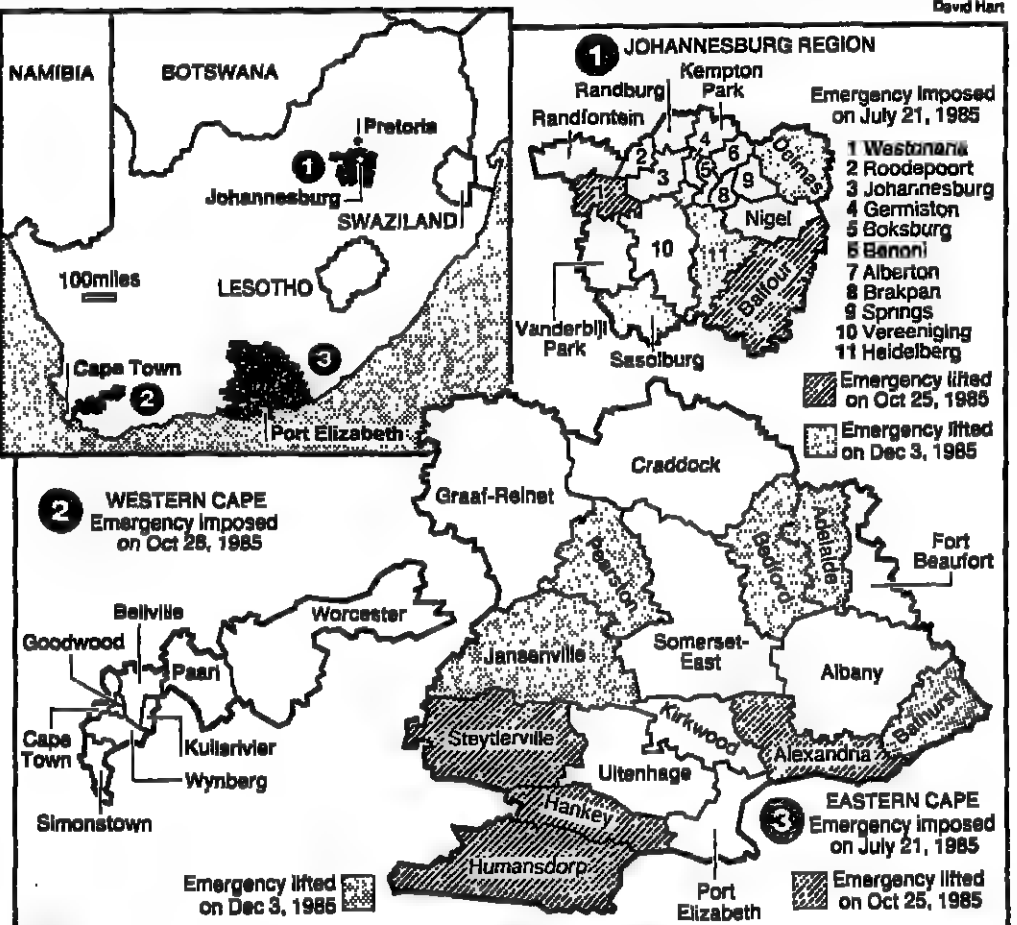
non-whites. September 3, 1984 when rumours of rent increases triggered serious riots in Sharpeville is taken as the starting date. Of the 175 deaths in the whole of 1984 only 26 occurred before September.

Some 52 per cent of the deaths were caused by police action, and 28 per cent were residents of townships killed by other residents, often in feuding between different political factions. A detailed breakdown of who has killed whom is available up to the end of October and given in separate tables.

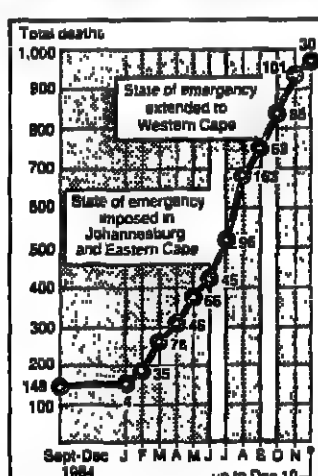
In November, the first full month since the government imposed restrictions on television and press coverage, which was said to be stimulating unrest, there were 101 deaths, the second highest monthly tally this year.

The worst single month of violence was August when 163 people died, about half of them in clashes in townships near Durban between rival political groups.

The worst cases of police excess were the shooting dead in March of 21 mourners on their way to a funeral at Langa, in the Eastern Cape, and the killing of at least 13 people in November when the police opened fire on predominantly peaceful demonstrators, many of them women, in Mamelodi near Pretoria.



CATALOGUE OF KILLINGS



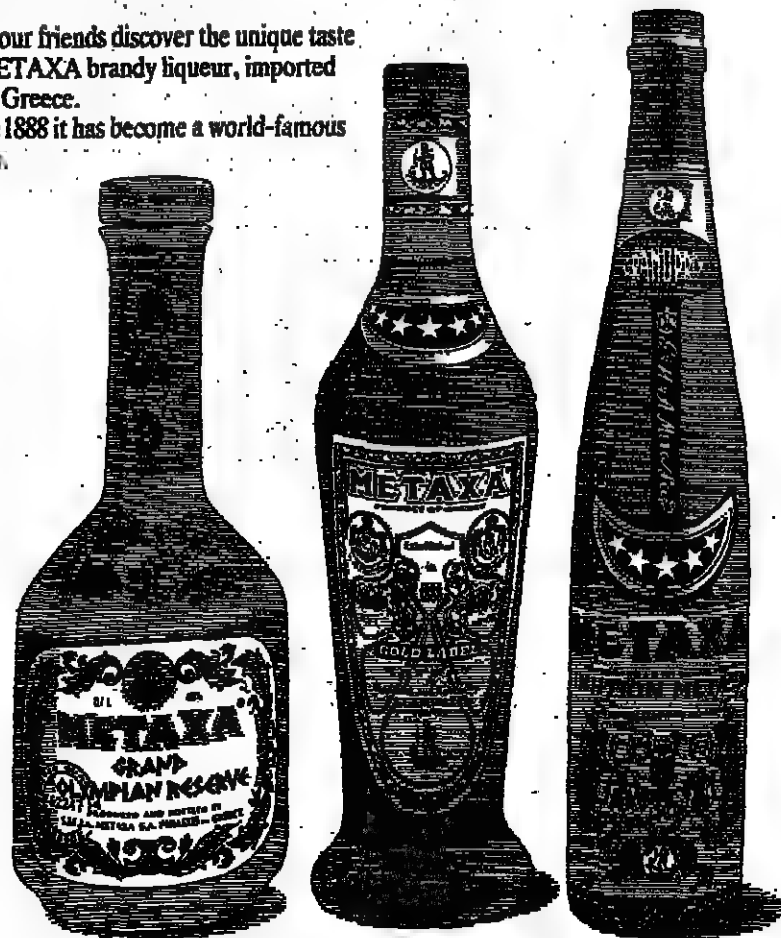
Who killed whom Sept 1 to Dec 31 1984	
Blacks killed by police	79
Residents killed by township residents	17
Whites killed by blacks	1
Accidental	13
Unknown assailants	38
TOTAL	148

Who killed whom Jan 1 to Oct 31 1985	
Blacks killed by police	390
Police killed by township residents	17
Troops killed by township residents	1
Residents killed by residents	201
Blacks killed by white civilians	2
Whites killed by blacks	4
Guerrillas killed by police	24
Accidental	24
Unknown assailants	71
TOTAL	882

*These figures cover the whole of South Africa and not just emergency areas, and up to Dec 10.

You don't have to come to Greece to find METAXA

Let your friends discover the unique taste of METAXA brandy liqueur, imported from Greece. Since 1888 it has become a world-famous name.



METAXA the Greek classic

Available in: HARRODS, SELF RIDGES, ALL BRANCHES OF ODDBINS, SELECTED BRANCHES OF TESCO, SAFWAY, ARTHUR COOPER (ROBERTS), PETER DOMINIC and other discerning outlets.

Diplomat among the peaks

The party of Chinese tourists had taken a day out of their round-Britain schedule to sample the rugged delights of the Peak District National Park when they came across a notice.

The sign read "Moor Closed for Shooting" and was meant to ward off rambblers while the guns were out hunting grouse. However, the Chinese mistakenly believed it to mean that it was an open day and proceeded to discharge an ill-assorted array of weaponry from their baggage and began blasting away at almost anything that moved.

It did not go down very well with the landowner who was out with a party of invited guests across the valley trying to bag a brace or two of grouse when the illegal fusillade started up. Soothing that incident was an early lesson in rural diplomacy for Ken Drabble, the new chief



Ken Drabble: new chief ranger of The Peak Park, Britain's oldest national park. But that ability will be increasingly tested in the coming years as the pressure between the 40,000 people who live and work in the park's 542 square miles and the 20 million

day visitors a year continues to grow.

Traditionally the park has attracted the climber, the walker and the camper. But now there is increased demand which is bringing its own problems.

Says Ken: "On any given day at Mam Tor, near Castleton, we can have boys flying their remote control aeroplanes with hang gliders overhead which themselves are flying higher than the Turbados and Phantoms of the RAF which thunder along the valleys at 550ft on low flying exercises."

"Our main task is to enhance and conserve the beauty of the peaks while making them accessible to visitors." Ken Drabble was born 51 years ago in the town of New Mills on the western edge of the park but didn't experience his first taste of its delights until he was 14 and joined a Scout hike up Kinder Scout, the demanding bluff near the village of Hayfield. He was, he now admits, sadly equipped in an old hacking jacket, ex-Army boots and a trilby bought in a jumble sale. From then on, however, he was hooked.

After National Service with the Royal Marines he returned home and joined the local mountain rescue team and his firm handshake now is that of a man who has hauled himself up some of the Peak District's most inhospitable terrain.

Now that he has, in his own words, exchanged a rucksack for a black leather briefcase, he is determined that he will not become totally office bound. "I want to make sure that I spend enough time out in the field to know what is going on. I don't want to get bogged down with paper-work", he says.

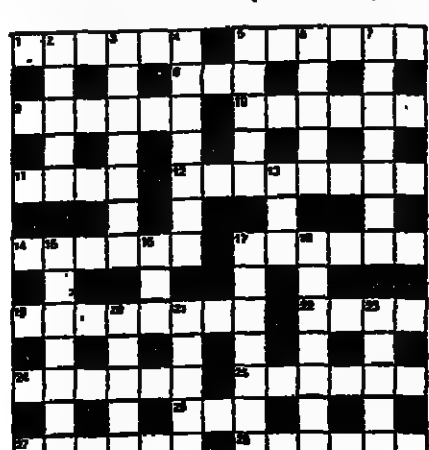
Peter Davenport

CONCISE CROSSWORD (No 831)

- ACROSS
- English horse painter (6)
 - Forceful flow (6)
 - Sleep (3)
 - Overnight case (6)
 - Symbol (6)
 - Arklelength dress (4)
 - Collarbone (8)
 - Bell tower (6)
 - Altruistic (6)
 - Multiple (6)
 - School snacks (4)
 - Express sorrow (6)
 - Stop (6)
 - Jog (3)
 - Snuggle (6)
 - Meddle (6)

DOWN

- Jewelled headress (5)
- Landowner's agent (7)
- In outline (7)
- Musical drama (5)
- Synagogue minister (5)



SOLUTION TO No 830
ACROSS: 8 Bunt offering 9 Ode 10 Amazonian 11 Baton 13 Dowdly 16 Mender 19 Inter 22 Re-enforce 24 Ton 25 Highland fling
DOWN: 1 Absorb 2 Priest 3 Strained 4 Afraid 5 Zero 6 Bikini 7 Agency 11 Axe 14 Write off 15 Lee 16 Marsly 17 Average 18 Raring 20 Tint 21 Renage 23 Folk.

THE TIMES SATURDAY

The weekend starts here



Remember 1985?

Which pop star was rescued from a sinking ship? What happened at Knock? at Corton Wood? How well do you remember the past 12 months? Test your knowledge of current events in *The Times* Quiz of the Year, with cash prizes for the three winners

A Christmas Jumbo

When you're replete with turkey and tired of festive television, tune up the brain cells by trying *The Times* Christmas Jumbo crossword prize with an additional set of concise clues for the less ambitious

Portfolio £22,000 to be won

Can you always get your copy of *The Times*?

Dear Newsagent, please deliver/save me a copy of *The Times*

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

The Spectrum article on the finances of the Palestine Liberation Organization (December 9) first appeared in *Der Spiegel* magazine.

CAR BUYERS' GUIDE

Table with 2 columns: Car Model, Price. Includes models like Rover SD1, Lotus Esprit, and various hatchbacks.

DESIGNER CARS. Text advertisement for designer cars with contact information.

H A FOX (Torquay). Text advertisement for a car dealership.

UNIQUE VEHICLE. Text advertisement for a unique vehicle.

NEW NISSAN. Text advertisement for Nissan cars.

HONDA CARS. Text advertisement for Honda cars.

ROLLS-ROYCE SHADOW II. Text advertisement for Rolls-Royce Shadow II.

NEW HONDA CARS. Text advertisement for new Honda cars.

1983 A Reg Opel Monza 3.0E Auto. Text advertisement for Opel Monza.

LOTUS ESPRIT TURBO. Text advertisement for Lotus Esprit Turbo.

MASERATI KYALAMI. Text advertisement for Maserati Kyalami.

Collectors cars. Text advertisement for collector cars.

British trio dominate Southern Cross

From John Roberson Sydney. Britain finished in the first three places overall in the third race of the AWA Southern Cross Cup...

Recurrence of problem for Tabarly

By Barry Pickball. Eric Tabarly, skipper of the Belgium team of the World Cup, which is competing in the Whitbread Round the World race...

SKIING

Bell's second success in two days

Martin Bell won his second downhill race in consecutive days at Val Gardena, Italy, yesterday. Organized by the International Ski Federation...

Giant surprise by Oxford

Val d'Aure - The most surprising result in the European University Giant Slalom was Oxford's victory in the combined men's event...

Sisters wait

Berne (AP) - Gian-Franco Kasper, the Secretary General of the International Ski Federation (FIS), said yesterday that the Pöschl twins, Dorothea and Margareta, will race for France as soon as they become French citizens...

SWIMMING

New chairman appointed by federation

Tom Cooper, the secretary of the Northern Counties Amateur Swimming Association, has been appointed chairman of the Amateur Swimming Federation of Britain...

RACING: CORBIERE HEAVILY BACKED FOR SECOND WELSH GRAND NATIONAL VICTORY

Progressive Pitcuivie for treble



Nick Henderson, the Lambourn trainer, confirmed yesterday that his impressive Ascot winner, First Bout (above), will defend his unbeaten hurdles record in the Ladbrokes Christmas Hurdle at Kempton Park on Boxing Day.

By Mandarin (Michael Phillips). Pitcuivie, the useful six-year-old that Gordon Richards trained at Penrith, is nipped to gain his third success at Kelso this season, and his fourth overall, in the Glenasmole Novices' Chase...

KELSO

Going good to soft. 12.30 CHARTERHALL JUVENILE NOVICE HURDLE (5-y-o; 254s; 2m) (10 runners). 1. GROWN BATTLE (B R P) 10-12. 2. DOCTOR CHESIRE (R P) 10-12. 3. MARK LAMBERT (A P) 10-12. 4. MARK LAMBERT (A P) 10-12. 5. MARK LAMBERT (A P) 10-12. 6. MARK LAMBERT (A P) 10-12. 7. MARK LAMBERT (A P) 10-12. 8. MARK LAMBERT (A P) 10-12. 9. MARK LAMBERT (A P) 10-12. 10. MARK LAMBERT (A P) 10-12.

ELIBANK SELLING HANDICAP CHASE (278s; 2m 100yds) (9)

1. 10-12. 2. 10-12. 3. 10-12. 4. 10-12. 5. 10-12. 6. 10-12. 7. 10-12. 8. 10-12. 9. 10-12.

1.30 WESTWICK NOVICE HURDLE (255s; 2m 60yds) (17)

1. 10-12. 2. 10-12. 3. 10-12. 4. 10-12. 5. 10-12. 6. 10-12. 7. 10-12. 8. 10-12. 9. 10-12. 10. 10-12. 11. 10-12. 12. 10-12. 13. 10-12. 14. 10-12. 15. 10-12. 16. 10-12. 17. 10-12.

1.30 WESTWICK NOVICE HURDLE (255s; 2m 60yds) (17)

1. 10-12. 2. 10-12. 3. 10-12. 4. 10-12. 5. 10-12. 6. 10-12. 7. 10-12. 8. 10-12. 9. 10-12. 10. 10-12. 11. 10-12. 12. 10-12. 13. 10-12. 14. 10-12. 15. 10-12. 16. 10-12. 17. 10-12.

1.30 WESTWICK NOVICE HURDLE (255s; 2m 60yds) (17)

1. 10-12. 2. 10-12. 3. 10-12. 4. 10-12. 5. 10-12. 6. 10-12. 7. 10-12. 8. 10-12. 9. 10-12. 10. 10-12. 11. 10-12. 12. 10-12. 13. 10-12. 14. 10-12. 15. 10-12. 16. 10-12. 17. 10-12.

1.30 WESTWICK NOVICE HURDLE (255s; 2m 60yds) (17)

1. 10-12. 2. 10-12. 3. 10-12. 4. 10-12. 5. 10-12. 6. 10-12. 7. 10-12. 8. 10-12. 9. 10-12. 10. 10-12. 11. 10-12. 12. 10-12. 13. 10-12. 14. 10-12. 15. 10-12. 16. 10-12. 17. 10-12.

Fillies' test promoted in pattern changes

The Hoover Fillies Mile, won last season by Michael Stoute's classic hope, Untold, has been upgraded to group two status as part of several major changes to the Flat pattern for next year, agreed by the European pattern committee.

Chapman called before stewards

David Chapman, the Stillington trainer, was called before the stewards at Carlisle yesterday after his jockey Shaun Keightley pulled up Say Please in division one of the Caldbeck Novices' Hurdle, won by Rains.

Corbiere in demand

Corbiere, the Welsh Grand National winner, is in demand for the King George VI Chase at Ascot on Boxing Day, according to the King George VI Chase Committee.

Hereford results

12.30 (on road). 1. WANTED (B R P) 10-12. 2. WANTED (B R P) 10-12. 3. WANTED (B R P) 10-12. 4. WANTED (B R P) 10-12. 5. WANTED (B R P) 10-12. 6. WANTED (B R P) 10-12. 7. WANTED (B R P) 10-12. 8. WANTED (B R P) 10-12. 9. WANTED (B R P) 10-12. 10. WANTED (B R P) 10-12.

Kelso selections

By Mandarin. 12.30 Westwick. 1.00-Drum Roll. 2.00-Drum Roll. 3.00-Drum Roll. 4.00-Drum Roll. 5.00-Drum Roll. 6.00-Drum Roll. 7.00-Drum Roll. 8.00-Drum Roll. 9.00-Drum Roll. 10.00-Drum Roll. 11.00-Drum Roll. 12.00-Drum Roll. 13.00-Drum Roll. 14.00-Drum Roll. 15.00-Drum Roll. 16.00-Drum Roll. 17.00-Drum Roll. 18.00-Drum Roll. 19.00-Drum Roll. 20.00-Drum Roll. 21.00-Drum Roll. 22.00-Drum Roll. 23.00-Drum Roll. 24.00-Drum Roll. 25.00-Drum Roll. 26.00-Drum Roll. 27.00-Drum Roll. 28.00-Drum Roll. 29.00-Drum Roll. 30.00-Drum Roll. 31.00-Drum Roll. 32.00-Drum Roll. 33.00-Drum Roll. 34.00-Drum Roll. 35.00-Drum Roll. 36.00-Drum Roll. 37.00-Drum Roll. 38.00-Drum Roll. 39.00-Drum Roll. 40.00-Drum Roll. 41.00-Drum Roll. 42.00-Drum Roll. 43.00-Drum Roll. 44.00-Drum Roll. 45.00-Drum Roll. 46.00-Drum Roll. 47.00-Drum Roll. 48.00-Drum Roll. 49.00-Drum Roll. 50.00-Drum Roll. 51.00-Drum Roll. 52.00-Drum Roll. 53.00-Drum Roll. 54.00-Drum Roll. 55.00-Drum Roll. 56.00-Drum Roll. 57.00-Drum Roll. 58.00-Drum Roll. 59.00-Drum Roll. 60.00-Drum Roll. 61.00-Drum Roll. 62.00-Drum Roll. 63.00-Drum Roll. 64.00-Drum Roll. 65.00-Drum Roll. 66.00-Drum Roll. 67.00-Drum Roll. 68.00-Drum Roll. 69.00-Drum Roll. 70.00-Drum Roll. 71.00-Drum Roll. 72.00-Drum Roll. 73.00-Drum Roll. 74.00-Drum Roll. 75.00-Drum Roll. 76.00-Drum Roll. 77.00-Drum Roll. 78.00-Drum Roll. 79.00-Drum Roll. 80.00-Drum Roll. 81.00-Drum Roll. 82.00-Drum Roll. 83.00-Drum Roll. 84.00-Drum Roll. 85.00-Drum Roll. 86.00-Drum Roll. 87.00-Drum Roll. 88.00-Drum Roll. 89.00-Drum Roll. 90.00-Drum Roll. 91.00-Drum Roll. 92.00-Drum Roll. 93.00-Drum Roll. 94.00-Drum Roll. 95.00-Drum Roll. 96.00-Drum Roll. 97.00-Drum Roll. 98.00-Drum Roll. 99.00-Drum Roll. 100.00-Drum Roll. 101.00-Drum Roll. 102.00-Drum Roll. 103.00-Drum Roll. 104.00-Drum Roll. 105.00-Drum Roll. 106.00-Drum Roll. 107.00-Drum Roll. 108.00-Drum Roll. 109.00-Drum Roll. 110.00-Drum Roll. 111.00-Drum Roll. 112.00-Drum Roll. 113.00-Drum Roll. 114.00-Drum Roll. 115.00-Drum Roll. 116.00-Drum Roll. 117.00-Drum Roll. 118.00-Drum Roll. 119.00-Drum Roll. 120.00-Drum Roll. 121.00-Drum Roll. 122.00-Drum Roll. 123.00-Drum Roll. 124.00-Drum Roll. 125.00-Drum Roll. 126.00-Drum Roll. 127.00-Drum Roll. 128.00-Drum Roll. 129.00-Drum Roll. 130.00-Drum Roll. 131.00-Drum Roll. 132.00-Drum Roll. 133.00-Drum Roll. 134.00-Drum Roll. 135.00-Drum Roll. 136.00-Drum Roll. 137.00-Drum Roll. 138.00-Drum Roll. 139.00-Drum Roll. 140.00-Drum Roll. 141.00-Drum Roll. 142.00-Drum Roll. 143.00-Drum Roll. 144.00-Drum Roll. 145.00-Drum Roll. 146.00-Drum Roll. 147.00-Drum Roll. 148.00-Drum Roll. 149.00-Drum Roll. 150.00-Drum Roll. 151.00-Drum Roll. 152.00-Drum Roll. 153.00-Drum Roll. 154.00-Drum Roll. 155.00-Drum Roll. 156.00-Drum Roll. 157.00-Drum Roll. 158.00-Drum Roll. 159.00-Drum Roll. 160.00-Drum Roll. 161.00-Drum Roll. 162.00-Drum Roll. 163.00-Drum Roll. 164.00-Drum Roll. 165.00-Drum Roll. 166.00-Drum Roll. 167.00-Drum Roll. 168.00-Drum Roll. 169.00-Drum Roll. 170.00-Drum Roll. 171.00-Drum Roll. 172.00-Drum Roll. 173.00-Drum Roll. 174.00-Drum Roll. 175.00-Drum Roll. 176.00-Drum Roll. 177.00-Drum Roll. 178.00-Drum Roll. 179.00-Drum Roll. 180.00-Drum Roll. 181.00-Drum Roll. 182.00-Drum Roll. 183.00-Drum Roll. 184.00-Drum Roll. 185.00-Drum Roll. 186.00-Drum Roll. 187.00-Drum Roll. 188.00-Drum Roll. 189.00-Drum Roll. 190.00-Drum Roll. 191.00-Drum Roll. 192.00-Drum Roll. 193.00-Drum Roll. 194.00-Drum Roll. 195.00-Drum Roll. 196.00-Drum Roll. 197.00-Drum Roll. 198.00-Drum Roll. 199.00-Drum Roll. 200.00-Drum Roll. 201.00-Drum Roll. 202.00-Drum Roll. 203.00-Drum Roll. 204.00-Drum Roll. 205.00-Drum Roll. 206.00-Drum Roll. 207.00-Drum Roll. 208.00-Drum Roll. 209.00-Drum Roll. 210.00-Drum Roll. 211.00-Drum Roll. 212.00-Drum Roll. 213.00-Drum Roll. 214.00-Drum Roll. 215.00-Drum Roll. 216.00-Drum Roll. 217.00-Drum Roll. 218.00-Drum Roll. 219.00-Drum Roll. 220.00-Drum Roll. 221.00-Drum Roll. 222.00-Drum Roll. 223.00-Drum Roll. 224.00-Drum Roll. 225.00-Drum Roll. 226.00-Drum Roll. 227.00-Drum Roll. 228.00-Drum Roll. 229.00-Drum Roll. 230.00-Drum Roll. 231.00-Drum Roll. 232.00-Drum Roll. 233.00-Drum Roll. 234.00-Drum Roll. 235.00-Drum Roll. 236.00-Drum Roll. 237.00-Drum Roll. 238.00-Drum Roll. 239.00-Drum Roll. 240.00-Drum Roll. 241.00-Drum Roll. 242.00-Drum Roll. 243.00-Drum Roll. 244.00-Drum Roll. 245.00-Drum Roll. 246.00-Drum Roll. 247.00-Drum Roll. 248.00-Drum Roll. 249.00-Drum Roll. 250.00-Drum Roll. 251.00-Drum Roll. 252.00-Drum Roll. 253.00-Drum Roll. 254.00-Drum Roll. 255.00-Drum Roll. 256.00-Drum Roll. 257.00-Drum Roll. 258.00-Drum Roll. 259.00-Drum Roll. 260.00-Drum Roll. 261.00-Drum Roll. 262.00-Drum Roll. 263.00-Drum Roll. 264.00-Drum Roll. 265.00-Drum Roll. 266.00-Drum Roll. 267.00-Drum Roll. 268.00-Drum Roll. 269.00-Drum Roll. 270.00-Drum Roll. 271.00-Drum Roll. 272.00-Drum Roll. 273.00-Drum Roll. 274.00-Drum Roll. 275.00-Drum Roll. 276.00-Drum Roll. 277.00-Drum Roll. 278.00-Drum Roll. 279.00-Drum Roll. 280.00-Drum Roll. 281.00-Drum Roll. 282.00-Drum Roll. 283.00-Drum Roll. 284.00-Drum Roll. 285.00-Drum Roll. 286.00-Drum Roll. 287.00-Drum Roll. 288.00-Drum Roll. 289.00-Drum Roll. 290.00-Drum Roll. 291.00-Drum Roll. 292.00-Drum Roll. 293.00-Drum Roll. 294.00-Drum Roll. 295.00-Drum Roll. 296.00-Drum Roll. 297.00-Drum Roll. 298.00-Drum Roll. 299.00-Drum Roll. 300.00-Drum Roll. 301.00-Drum Roll. 302.00-Drum Roll. 303.00-Drum Roll. 304.00-Drum Roll. 305.00-Drum Roll. 306.00-Drum Roll. 307.00-Drum Roll. 308.00-Drum Roll. 309.00-Drum Roll. 310.00-Drum Roll. 311.00-Drum Roll. 312.00-Drum Roll. 313.00-Drum Roll. 314.00-Drum Roll. 315.00-Drum Roll. 316.00-Drum Roll. 317.00-Drum Roll. 318.00-Drum Roll. 319.00-Drum Roll. 320.00-Drum Roll. 321.00-Drum Roll. 322.00-Drum Roll. 323.00-Drum Roll. 324.00-Drum Roll. 325.00-Drum Roll. 326.00-Drum Roll. 327.00-Drum Roll. 328.00-Drum Roll. 329.00-Drum Roll. 330.00-Drum Roll. 331.00-Drum Roll. 332.00-Drum Roll. 333.00-Drum Roll. 334.00-Drum Roll. 335.00-Drum Roll. 336.00-Drum Roll. 337.00-Drum Roll. 338.00-Drum Roll. 339.00-Drum Roll. 340.00-Drum Roll. 341.00-Drum Roll. 342.00-Drum Roll. 343.00-Drum Roll. 344.00-Drum Roll. 345.00-Drum Roll. 346.00-Drum Roll. 347.00-Drum Roll. 348.00-Drum Roll. 349.00-Drum Roll. 350.00-Drum Roll. 351.00-Drum Roll. 352.00-Drum Roll. 353.00-Drum Roll. 354.00-Drum Roll. 355.00-Drum Roll. 356.00-Drum Roll. 357.00-Drum Roll. 358.00-Drum Roll. 359.00-Drum Roll. 360.00-Drum Roll. 361.00-Drum Roll. 362.00-Drum Roll. 363.00-Drum Roll. 364.00-Drum Roll. 365.00-Drum Roll. 366.00-Drum Roll. 367.00-Drum Roll. 368.00-Drum Roll. 369.00-Drum Roll. 370.00-Drum Roll. 371.00-Drum Roll. 372.00-Drum Roll. 373.00-Drum Roll. 374.00-Drum Roll. 375.00-Drum Roll. 376.00-Drum Roll. 377.00-Drum Roll. 378.00-Drum Roll. 379.00-Drum Roll. 380.00-Drum Roll. 381.00-Drum Roll. 382.00-Drum Roll. 383.00-Drum Roll. 384.00-Drum Roll. 385.00-Drum Roll. 386.00-Drum Roll. 387.00-Drum Roll. 388.00-Drum Roll. 389.00-Drum Roll. 390.00-Drum Roll. 391.00-Drum Roll. 392.00-Drum Roll. 393.00-Drum Roll. 394.00-Drum Roll. 395.00-Drum Roll. 396.00-Drum Roll. 397.00-Drum Roll. 398.00-Drum Roll. 399.00-Drum Roll. 400.00-Drum Roll. 401.00-Drum Roll. 402.00-Drum Roll. 403.00-Drum Roll. 404.00-Drum Roll. 405.00-Drum Roll. 406.00-Drum Roll. 407.00-Drum Roll. 408.00-Drum Roll. 409.00-Drum Roll. 410.00-Drum Roll. 411.00-Drum Roll. 412.00-Drum Roll. 413.00-Drum Roll. 414.00-Drum Roll. 415.00-Drum Roll. 416.00-Drum Roll. 417.00-Drum Roll. 418.00-Drum Roll. 419.00-Drum Roll. 420.00-Drum Roll. 421.00-Drum Roll. 422.00-Drum Roll. 423.00-Drum Roll. 424.00-Drum Roll. 425.00-Drum Roll. 426.00-Drum Roll. 427.00-Drum Roll. 428.00-Drum Roll. 429.00-Drum Roll. 430.00-Drum Roll. 431.00-Drum Roll. 432.00-Drum Roll. 433.00-Drum Roll. 434.00-Drum Roll. 435.00-Drum Roll. 436.00-Drum Roll. 437.00-Drum Roll. 438.00-Drum Roll. 439.00-Drum Roll. 440.00-Drum Roll. 441.00-Drum Roll. 442.00-Drum Roll. 443.00-Drum Roll. 444.00-Drum Roll. 445.00-Drum Roll. 446.00-Drum Roll. 447.00-Drum Roll. 448.00-Drum Roll. 449.00-Drum Roll. 450.00-Drum Roll. 451.00-Drum Roll. 452.00-Drum Roll. 453.00-Drum Roll. 454.00-Drum Roll. 455.00-Drum Roll. 456.00-Drum Roll. 457.00-Drum Roll. 458.00-Drum Roll. 459.00-Drum Roll. 460.00-Drum Roll. 461.00-Drum Roll. 462.00-Drum Roll. 463.00-Drum Roll. 464.00-Drum Roll. 465.00-Drum Roll. 466.00-Drum Roll. 467.00-Drum Roll. 468.00-Drum Roll. 469.00-Drum Roll. 470.00-Drum Roll. 471.00-Drum Roll. 472.00-Drum Roll. 473.00-Drum Roll. 474.00-Drum Roll. 475.00-Drum Roll. 476.00-Drum Roll. 477.00-Drum Roll. 478.00-Drum Roll. 479.00-Drum Roll. 480.00-Drum Roll. 481.00-Drum Roll. 482.00-Drum Roll. 483.00-Drum Roll. 484.00-Drum Roll. 485.00-Drum Roll. 486.00-Drum Roll. 487.00-Drum Roll. 488.00-Drum Roll. 489.00-Drum Roll. 490.00-Drum Roll. 491.00-Drum Roll. 492.00-Drum Roll. 493.00-Drum Roll. 494.00-Drum Roll. 495.00-Drum Roll. 496.00-Drum Roll. 497.00-Drum Roll. 498.00-Drum Roll. 499.00-Drum Roll. 500.00-Drum Roll. 501.00-Drum Roll. 502.00-Drum Roll. 503.00-Drum Roll. 504.00-Drum Roll. 505.00-Drum Roll. 506.00-Drum Roll. 507.00-Drum Roll. 508.00-Drum Roll. 509.00-Drum Roll. 510.00-Drum Roll. 511.00-Drum Roll. 512.00-Drum Roll. 513.00-Drum Roll. 514.00-Drum Roll. 515.00-Drum Roll. 516.00-Drum Roll. 517.00-Drum Roll. 518.00-Drum Roll. 519.00-Drum Roll. 520.00-Drum Roll. 521.00-Drum Roll. 522.00-Drum Roll. 523.00-Drum Roll. 524.00-Drum Roll. 525.00-Drum Roll. 526.00-Drum Roll. 527.00-Drum Roll. 528.00-Drum Roll. 529.00-Drum Roll. 530.00-Drum Roll. 531.00-Drum Roll. 532.00-Drum Roll. 533.00-Drum Roll. 534.00-Drum Roll. 535.00-Drum Roll. 536.00-Drum Roll. 537.00-Drum Roll. 538.00-Drum Roll. 539.00-Drum Roll. 540.00-Drum Roll. 541.00-Drum Roll. 542.00-Drum Roll. 543.00-Drum Roll. 544.00-Drum Roll. 545.00-Drum Roll. 546.00-Drum Roll. 547.00-Drum Roll. 548.00-Drum Roll. 549.00-Drum Roll. 550.00-Drum Roll. 551.00-Drum Roll. 552.00-Drum Roll. 553.00-Drum Roll. 554.00-Drum Roll. 555.00-Drum Roll. 556.00-Drum Roll. 557.00-Drum Roll. 558.00-Drum Roll. 559.00-Drum Roll. 560.00-Drum Roll. 561.00-Drum Roll. 562.00-Drum Roll. 563.00-Drum Roll. 564.00-Drum Roll. 565.00-Drum Roll. 566.00-Drum Roll. 567.00-Drum Roll. 568.00-Drum Roll. 569.00-Drum Roll. 570.00-Drum Roll. 571.00-Drum Roll. 572.00-Drum Roll. 573.00-Drum Roll. 574.00-Drum Roll. 575.00-Drum Roll. 576.00-Drum Roll. 577.00-Drum Roll. 578.00-Drum Roll. 579.00-Drum Roll. 580.00-Drum Roll. 581.00-Drum Roll. 582.00-Drum Roll. 583.00-Drum Roll. 584.00-Drum Roll. 585.00-Drum Roll. 586.00-Drum Roll. 587.00-Drum Roll. 588.00-Drum Roll. 589.00-Drum Roll. 590.00-Drum Roll. 591.00-Drum Roll. 592.00-Drum Roll. 593.00-Drum Roll. 594.00-Drum Roll. 595.00-Drum Roll. 596.00-Drum Roll. 597.00-Drum Roll. 598.00-Drum Roll. 599.00-Drum Roll. 600.00-Drum Roll. 601.00-Drum Roll. 602.00-Drum Roll. 603.00-Drum Roll. 604.00-Drum Roll. 605.00-Drum Roll. 606.00-Drum Roll. 607.00-Drum Roll. 608.00-Drum Roll. 609.00-Drum Roll. 610.00-Drum Roll. 611.00-Drum Roll. 612.00-Drum Roll. 613.00-Drum Roll. 614.00-Drum Roll. 615.00-Drum Roll. 616.00-Drum Roll. 617.00-Drum Roll. 618.00-Drum Roll. 619.00-Drum Roll. 620.00-Drum Roll. 621.00-Drum Roll. 622.00-Drum Roll. 623.00-Drum Roll. 624.00-Drum Roll. 625.00-Drum Roll. 626.00-Drum Roll. 627.00-Drum Roll. 628.00-Drum Roll. 629.00-Drum Roll. 630.00-Drum Roll. 631.00-Drum Roll. 632.00-Drum Roll. 633.00-Drum Roll. 634.00-Drum Roll. 635.00-Drum Roll. 636.00-Drum Roll. 637.00-Drum Roll. 638.00-Drum Roll. 639.00-Drum Roll. 640.00-Drum Roll. 641.00-Drum Roll. 642.00-Drum Roll. 643.00-Drum Roll. 644.00-Drum Roll. 645.00-Drum Roll. 646.00-Drum Roll. 647.00-Drum Roll. 648.00-Drum Roll. 649.00-Drum Roll. 650.00-Drum Roll. 651.00-Drum Roll. 652.00-Drum Roll. 653.00-Drum Roll. 654.00-Drum Roll. 655.00-Drum Roll. 656.00-Drum Roll. 657.00-Drum Roll. 658.00-Drum Roll. 659.00-Drum Roll. 660.00-Drum Roll. 661.00-Drum Roll. 662.00-Drum Roll. 663.00-Drum Roll. 664.00-Drum Roll. 665.00-Drum Roll. 666.00-Drum Roll. 667.00-Drum Roll. 668.00-Drum Roll. 669.00-Drum Roll. 670.00-Drum Roll. 671.00-Drum Roll. 672.00-Drum Roll. 673.00-Drum Roll. 674.00-Drum Roll. 675.00-Drum Roll. 676.00-Drum Roll. 677.00-Drum Roll. 678.00-Drum Roll. 679.00-Drum Roll. 680.00-Drum Roll. 681.00-Drum Roll. 682.00-Drum Roll. 683.00-Drum Roll. 684.00-Drum Roll. 685.00-Drum Roll. 686.00-Drum Roll. 687.00-Drum Roll. 688.00-Drum Roll. 689.00-Drum Roll. 690.00-Drum Roll. 691.00-Drum Roll. 692.00-Drum Roll. 693.00-Drum Roll. 694.00-Drum Roll. 695.00-Drum Roll. 696.00-Drum Roll. 697.00-Drum Roll. 698.00-Drum Roll. 699.00-Drum Roll. 700.00-Drum Roll. 701.00-Drum Roll. 702.00-Drum Roll. 703.00-Drum Roll. 704.00-Drum Roll. 705.00-Drum Roll. 706.00-Drum Roll. 707.00-Drum Roll. 708.00-Drum Roll. 709.00-Drum Roll. 710.00-Drum Roll. 711.00-Drum Roll. 712.00-Drum Roll. 713.00-Drum Roll. 714.00-Drum Roll. 715.00-Drum Roll. 716.00-Drum Roll. 717.00-Drum Roll. 718.00-Drum Roll. 719.00-Drum Roll. 720.00-Drum Roll. 721.00-Drum Roll. 722.00-Drum Roll. 723.00-Drum Roll. 724.00-Drum Roll. 725.00-Drum Roll. 726.00-Drum Roll. 727.00-Drum Roll. 728.00-Drum Roll. 729.00-Drum Roll. 730.00-Drum Roll. 731.00-Drum Roll. 732.00-Drum Roll. 733.00-Drum Roll. 734.00-Drum Roll. 735.00-Drum Roll. 736.00-Drum Roll. 737.00-Drum Roll. 738.00-Drum Roll. 739.00-Drum Roll. 740.00-Drum Roll. 741.00-Drum Roll. 742.00-Drum Roll. 743.00-Drum Roll. 744.00-Drum Roll. 745.00-Drum Roll. 746.00-Drum Roll. 747.00-Drum Roll. 748.00-Drum Roll. 749.00-Drum Roll. 750.00-Drum Roll. 751.00-Drum Roll. 752.00-Drum Roll. 753.00-Drum Roll. 754.00-Drum Roll. 755.00-Drum Roll. 756.00-Drum Roll. 757.00-Drum Roll. 758.00-Drum Roll. 759.00-Drum Roll. 760.00-Drum Roll. 761.00-Drum Roll. 762.00-Drum Roll. 763.00-Drum Roll. 764.00-Drum Roll. 765.00-Drum Roll. 766.00-Drum Roll. 767.00-Drum Roll. 768.00-Drum Roll. 769.00-Drum Roll. 770.00-Drum Roll. 771.00-Drum Roll. 772.00-Drum Roll.

FINANCIAL SERVICES BILL

Investment industry is given self-regulatory framework

Introduction: The Financial Services Bill defines investments and investment business, requires persons carrying on investment business to be authorized and provides for their regulation. It also makes changes to the law on collective investment, listing of securities, offers of unlisted securities, and insider dealing.

The Government's objectives are:

Efficiency - the financial services industry of Britain should be able to provide services to industry and commerce, private investors and Government in the most efficient and economic way.

Competitiveness - the industry must be competitive both domestically and internationally. Regulation must stimulate competition and encourage innovation; it must be responsive to international developments and not a cover for protectionism.

Confidence - the system of regulation must inspire confidence in investors and investors by ensuring that the financial services sector is, and is seen to be, a "clean" place to do business.

Flexibility - the regulatory framework must be clear enough to guide but not cramp structural and other changes in the industry. It must have the resilience not to be over-run by events.

Transfer of functions

The Bill gives the Secretary of State for Trade and Industry powers to authorize and regulate investment business. Much of the Bill is concerned with these powers, which provide the framework for the new regulatory structure. However, it enables the Secretary of State to transfer the majority of his powers to one or more designated agencies.

Powers can be transferred only if the Secretary of State is satisfied that the proposed designated agency is able and willing to exercise them and that the agency's rules will provide an adequate level of investor protection, will comply with principles set out below and will not be anti-competitive to any extent greater than is necessary for investor protection.

The chairman and members of an agency must be appointed jointly by the Secretary of State and the Governor of the Bank of England. The transfer of functions will be subject to parliamentary approval.

Although the Bill provides for the possibility of more than one designated agency, it is expected that after Royal Assent, a single body will seek the transfer to it of powers under the Bill.

The Bill leaves many of the detailed requirements to rules and regulations. Most of these will be made by the designated agency.

Requirement to be authorized

Anyone who carries on investment business in Britain must be authorized or, in certain special circumstances, exempted. Doing business without authorization is made a criminal offence which could lead to fines and imprisonment. The offending business will also be unable to enforce its contracts.

The Secretary of State will be able to apply to the courts for an injunction to prevent a person from carrying on business without authorization or for an order (a "restitution" order) requiring it to repay any profits from carrying on such business and to meet any losses incurred by investors because of the way in which the business was conducted.

Methods of becoming authorized are five main ways of becoming authorized:

Direct authorization by the agency: The agency will itself be able to authorize "fit and proper" persons to carry on investment business.

Membership of a Recognized Self-regulating Organization (SRO): It is expected that most investment businesses will opt to join one of the practitioner-based SROs which will be recognized by the agency under the Bill.

To qualify for recognition, an SRO will have to satisfy the agency that its rules and enforcement of those rules provide investors with protection at least equivalent to that provided by the agency.

If a recognized SRO fails to continue to meet the criteria for recognition, the agency will be able to apply for a court order directing it to amend its rules or to improve the enforcement of them so as to ensure that investor protection is brought up to the required standard.

Alternatively, the agency will be able to restrict the types of investment business regulated by the SRO concerned or, if necessary, remove its recognition altogether.

Membership of a professional body: Many professionals carry on some of investment business incidental to their profession. They are subject to the discipline of their professional bodies, and the Bill will allow

The Financial Services Bill contains most of the proposals made in the White Paper laying out a new framework for regulating the investment industry, which was published early this year. Following the White Paper, The Securities and Investments Board (SIB), chaired by Sir Kenneth Berrill, considered the regulation of investment institutions, while the Marketing of Investment Board Organizing Committee, chaired by Mr Mark Weinberg, looked at the selling of investments to the public. These boards are to be combined into a single body, the SIB, overseeing the regulatory framework contained in the Bill.

these bodies to apply for recognition.

Insurance Companies and Friendly Societies: There is a special regime. Businessmen from other member states of the EEC: If a business is authorized in another EEC member state which has an authorization regime providing equivalent standards of investor protection to that in Britain, and does not have a permanent place of business in Britain, then it is authorized to carry on investment business in Britain on a services basis.

Consequences of authorization

All authorized businesses (except insurance companies and friendly societies) are theoretically entitled to carry on all forms of investment business. But in practice, all SROs and professional bodies will be required to have "scope" rules which limit the investment business which their members carry on.

Exemptions from requirement to be authorized: There are certain restricted classes of person who are exempt from the requirement to be authorized. These include public bodies which perform investment business in the course of other duties; the Society of Lloyd's and its underwriting agents as far as investment business undertaken in connection with their insurance business is concerned; and exempt representatives (eg "tied agents") for whom an authorized business takes responsibility.

Recognized investment exchanges and clearing houses: The agency will be able to recognize an investment exchange, if it is satisfied that the exchange's rules and practices provide proper protection to investors whose deals are put through its facilities.

It will not be compulsory for all deals to be put through a recognized exchange - but the agency is likely to impose special rules for the protection of investors if they are not.

A recognized exchange will have to demonstrate that it has adequate arrangements for ensuring the performance of transactions effected on the exchange. These arrangements can be either in-house or made through a recognized clearing house.

Conduct of investment business

It will be a criminal offence to make a false or misleading statement with the intention of inducing someone to enter into an investment agreement or to engage in any act or course of conduct which deliberately creates a false or misleading impression of the price or value of an investment.

All investment businesses authorized by the agency will be subject to conduct of business rules. The Bill lays down the principles which the agency will have to make rules.

Recognized SROs and professional bodies will be required to have rules which provide investors with protection equivalent to that provided by the agency's rules.

The agency will be able to prohibit the employment in connection with investment business (except with its consent) of any individual who has shown himself not to be fit and proper to be employed in connection with such business.

If a directly authorized business breaches the rules, the powers open to the agency will be:

A public reprimand.

Withdrawal or suspension of authorization.

Application to a court for an injunction to prevent the breach or a restitution order requiring the business to repay any profits made through breaching the rules and to make good any losses investors have suffered as a result.

In addition, investors who have suffered loss as a result of a breach of rules by a directly authorized business or by a member of a recognized SRO or professional body will be able to bring an action for damages.

Powers of intervention

The agency will have powers to intervene in relation to a directly authorized person to protect investors. These powers include imposing restrictions on the kind of business which may be carried on, requiring assets to be kept in Britain and appointing a trustee to control the

securities to and making rules on listing.

Definition of 'investments'

The term will cover: Stocks and shares in Britain or foreign companies.

Debentures including debenture stock, loan stock, bonds and certificates of deposits.

Government and other public securities including gilt-edged stock, local authority bonds and bonds issued by foreign governments and international organizations.

Warrants entitling the holder to subscribe for shares or bonds.

Depository receipts for shares, bonds or warrants.

Units in collective investment schemes including units in unit trust schemes and shares in an open-ended investment company.

Options on currency and on any other investment.

Futures contracts for commodities.

Contracts for differences whose value is linked to the value of any kind of property or to an index (for instance a stock market index).

Insurance policies which are investments - such as endowment and unit linked policies - but not pure term assurance or policies which simply protect against risk - for example, most permanent health and credit protection policies and general insurance such as fire and theft.

Investment business

A person will be carrying on investment business, if as a business, he:

buys and sells investments.

Arranges for others to buy and sell investments.

Manages investments belonging to others.

Advises others on their investments or operates a collective investment scheme.

Exceptions: A person who buys and sells investments for his own account will not be carrying on investment business unless he does so to make a market in them, or to solicit people who are not themselves authorized to buy or sell.

Trustees who manage investments in their capacity as trustees will be regarded as carrying on investment business only if they are paid to manage the investments.

A person who gives investment advice purely as a consequence of advice on non-investment matters - eg a tax consultant advising a client to sell shares for tax reasons - will not be regarded as carrying on investment business.

Advice included in a bona fide newspaper (but not a tip-sheet) will be disregarded.

"Share shops" set up to help employees to exchange shares in the company or group which employ them will be excluded.

Conduct of investment business

The Secretary of State may transfer functions to an agency only if the rules that agency proposes to make will afford investors an adequate level of protection and comply with principles set out below.

The Bill does not disturb this system, which is designed to safeguard the solvency of insurance companies in the interests of their policy holders.

Insurance companies will be subject to rules made under the Bill on the marketing of investments - for example, rules on advertising, cold calling and cooling-off periods.

Friendly societies who also carry on insurance business, supervised by the Chief Registrar of Friendly Societies, will be subject to a similar regime.

Independent life insurance intermediaries - brokers, insurance consultants - are created in the Bill in the same way as other investment intermediaries requiring to be authorized and subject to rules made by a designated agency or SRO.

Collective investment schemes

The Bill reforms the regulation of unit trusts and other kinds of collective investment schemes.

Authorized schemes will be those capable of being promoted to the public and thus subject to closest control. Both the manager and independent trustee must, separately, be authorized as investment businesses. There will be powers to make regulations.

Public offers: The Bill brings together scattered provisions on public offers under one statutory roof.

Listed securities: The Bill replaces the Stock Exchange Listing Regulations 1984 which implemented, on an interim basis, the three EEL directives on listing. The Council of the Stock Exchange continues to be responsible, as competent authority for listing, for admitted



Meir Zorea is comforted by his father while Sister Carol Lyon carries out treatment at King's College Hospital, London, yesterday

Seoul steps up surveillance on a champion of freedom

From David Watts, Seoul

Mr Kim Dae Jung likes to joke that his house in Seoul is the safest in the capital after the presidential Blue House, so thick is the concentration of police and intelligence agents who keep his house under 24-hour surveillance.

But the past few weeks have been distinctly unsafe for the aides of South Korea's best-known political dissident: five of them have been taken in by police or intelligence agents for questioning. Usually they are released after a few days but some of them are beaten up.

"They want to check everything about me. They ask about my financial sources, my daily conversation and my son's role," says Mr Kim.

Not many visitors are allowed to get through to see him. Three busloads of supporters recently set off from the south. Two busloads were put under house arrest when they refused to give up the trip. The last load got through.

Three government cars stand near his house in the freezing snow ready to trail him whenever he leaves. Police boxes cordon off the area around his house.

Mr Kim has found the Government's attention more keenly focused on him since he recently entertained two high-ranking visitors from the State Department and the United States Embassy.

The Americans, he believes, are taking a lesson from the deteriorating situation in the

Philippines and moving to encourage a more open, democratic society in South Korea.

If so it will be some time soon for Mr Kim and other opponents of President Chun Doo Hwan's Government, who believe time is running out. A massive signature campaign for constitutional reform is being launched to try to prevent the president going to another term in 1988 when President Chun has said he will step down.

"The Americans have had a bitter experience in the Philippines. They don't want another Philippines in Korea. Only the Philippines and Korea have persistently fought for democracy in Asia and here we have no New People's Army. The opposition is united, not split as it is in the Philippines. We're seeking very healthy common goals, a Western democratic system with a free market and we're bitterly opposed to communism... where can they find better people to support? If they don't I fear we'll have another Vietnam here, said Mr Kim over a simple supper of rice, vegetables and shrimps in a backroom of his house.

Dressed in blazer and slacks he looks, well but suffers pain in his hip joints after a 14-ton lorry "accident" hit his car during election campaigning in 1971.

"The Korean people are determined to restore democ-

racy at any expense. They will never be suppressed by a crackdown because there are many courageous people ready to go to prison for freedom of speech and local autonomy... the President controls the appointment of everyone from the Prime Minister to a village clerk.

"Even in wartime we enjoyed more democratic freedom than we do now. During the war the gross national product was \$60 a head, now it's \$2,000 dollars but we had more freedom when it was \$60. We've purchased our wealth at a great price."

Westerners often believe that South Korea is "Not ready for democracy" but, says Mr Kim, it now has a higher per capita ratio of students graduating every year than many developed countries including Britain. And in the past 1,300 years of the Korean nation only 100 years of that has not been under civilian rule. As early as the Yi dynasty, from 1392 to 1910, freedom of speech was protected.

Mr Kim, a Christian, has escaped death five times, four of them were attempts on his life at the hands of the Korean Government, he believes.

"My mind is so peaceful. There's no fear there. I pity their attitude. I do believe I will be victorious over them even if I die tomorrow, because I have dedicated my life to my people for freedom and justice. I'm happy to stay here with my people sharing their ordeal."

Ruling soon on Barbie challenge

Lyons (AP) - France's highest appeals court deliberated the last challenge to the prosecution's case against the Nazi war criminal, Klaus Barbie yesterday as a Lyons newspaper published excerpts from confidential judicial interviews with the defendant.

Barbie, aged 72, is awaiting trial here on charges of crimes against humanity for his activities as head of the Gestapo during the Second World War. The interview published in *Le Progrès* was not sensational and concerned his complaints about the lack of medical care in prison and a guard that visited his cell several times.

The court is expected to rule soon on a motion by lawyers for some of Barbie's alleged wartime victims who object to the exclusion by the investigating magistrate, Mr Christian Riss, of crimes against members of the French Resistance.

The case against Barbie, in its present form, involves the deportation of French Jews to German extermination camps. Incidents involving resistance members are considered war crimes because members of the underground were considered combatants. The statute of limitations has expired for war crimes.

If the court rejects the appeal, judicial sources say the trial probably will begin in early February. If the appeal favours the complainants M Riss would have to reopen his investigations, which could set the trial date back for several months.

The main case against Barbie involves the deportation of 55 Jews, 52 of whom were children from a children's home in Litzu on April 6, 1944.

"I have no recollection of this event," Barbie was quoted as saying in a 1983 interview. "I was not informed. I can say that with a clear conscience."

In another 1983 interview, he complained about his health. "I don't feel well. I have strong pains in my legs and feet. At night, I suffer in my spine."

In 1984, the newspaper quoted him as saying: "I suffer from numbness in the feet, inflammation of the legs and poor circulation."

Helicopter used in jail break

Pelzer, South Carolina (AP) - A helicopter hijacked by an armed woman landed in a prison yard near here yesterday and flew off with three inmates. A warden was shot in the ensuing gun battle, prison officials said.

The helicopter landed about 10 miles away, and the inmates apparently fled in a waiting car.

Mr Hal Leslie, spokesman for the state's Department of Corrections, said the helicopter landed at 10am in the yard of the Perry Correctional Institution, a medium to maximum-security prison.

Warden fired several shots at the helicopter but were unable to bring it down. The name and condition of the wounded warden were not immediately available.

Mr Mitchell Shew, of Palmetto Helicopters in Greenville, said a woman arrived in the morning to rent a helicopter. She hijacked the aircraft with a gun and then took off alone.

President Reagan today is due to put a formal end to almost 40 years of US tutelage over remote islands scattered over thousands of miles of the Pacific Ocean.

After 16 years of complicated negotiation, Congress has approved a Compact of Free Association for Micronesia, recognizing the islands' right to self-government, but retaining vital US defence interests in the region. The President will sign the bill at a ceremony attended by representatives of the Federated States of Micronesia and the Republic of the Marshall Islands.

Administration officials hope the agreement will be endorsed by the islanders. Similar self-government status is expected to be granted later to the Palau islands, also under US trusteeship. A fourth group, the Northern Marianas, voted in 1976 to become a common-

Camera-shy mourners turn out for godfather

From Trevor Fishlock, New York

Mafia Godfather "Big Paul" Castellano lay in an open flower-bedecked coffin in the funeral parlour. A steady stream of people passed by to pay their last respects. A number of large stern men in dark suits were in attendance.

Outside the funeral home a small squad of detectives scribbled busily, noting the license plate numbers of the expensive cars and limousines which arrived bearing mourners.

Another detective took photographs as the respect-payers bowed their heads and headed into their dark cars and furs to avoid the lights of television cameras.

Several hundred people arrived for the wake at the funeral home in Gravesend, Brooklyn. Elaborate wreaths were delivered.

Mr Castellano, said by police to be head of the Gambino crime organization, the most powerful of the five Mafia families in New York, was murdered by three gunmen in Manhattan on Tuesday as he was about to enter a restaurant. His chief lieutenant, Thomas Blotti, a possible successor, was killed with him.

Some police officers think Castellano's death may have been approved by leaders of the other four families. Most of the speculation and suspicion centres on a faction within the family led by John Gotti.

Clash in Karachi

Karachi (AP, Reuter) - A shopkeeper and two children were killed, 18 injured and 13 shops set ablaze in communal clashes here set off by the harassment of a girl, police said.

People fought with knives

and iron bars at a cloth market after a Pashtun shopkeeper from North-West Frontier Province was seen teasing a local Urdu-speaking girl. Police used tear gas to break up the mobs.

Under the compact, the US recognizes the sovereignty of the islands but will renew a 30-year lease on the Kwajalein missile range in the Marshall Islands, the testing ground for the MX missile and parts of the Strategic Defence Initiative.

The compact indefinitely denies the use of the islands to any other foreign military presence as well as providing for a continued US security guarantee.

Plane is diverted to save boy's life

An Israeli boy aged three was recuperating in a south London hospital yesterday after the airliner taking him to the United States for a liver transplant operation made a midnight emergency diversion to Heathrow Airport to save his life (Robin Young writes).

Meir Zorea, accompanied by his father and a doctor, was on a direct El Al flight from Tel Aviv to Pittsburgh when he started bleeding internally as the aircraft crossed western Europe.

Dr Yehzekel Weisman gave him a blood transfusion, but with the plasma on board running out asked the pilot to land the aircraft as quickly as possible in case the boy suffered a relapse. The plane was given permission to put down at Heathrow shortly after 4.00 am, and the boy was taken by ambulance to King's College Hospital.

Yesterday the hospital said that he was fully conscious and had stopped bleeding, but would be undergoing tests and receiving treatment before continuing his journey.

The boy's plight had captured public sympathy in Israel where liver transplants are not allowed because of religious legislation. The Israeli health ministry refused to pay towards a transplant abroad, but a public appeal for £100,000, guaranteed by several MPs in the Knesset, was oversubscribed within two days.

Doctors 'in plot to kill horses'

From Peter Nichols, Rome

Two doctors and a stable-hand have been arrested in Pisa and charged with complicity in a plot to kill 26 thoroughbreds with arsenic, according to Signor Nicola Pisano, the public prosecutor. Other charges include massacre of horses, drugging and attempting to drug them.

Two of the three, Professor Bernardo Pezzone and his son Giuseppe, are doctors working at Pisa's main hospital, and the third, a former college world as well as by fellow horseowners. The third person, Enrico Galloppo, a stablehand, is accused of first drugging the horses and later killing them.

Signor Pezzone alleges that the motive for the crime was jealousy on the part of the two doctors at the success of the horses trained by Signor Ettore Fissotto, the owner of the racing world as well as by fellow horseowners. The third person, Enrico Galloppo, a stablehand, is accused of first drugging the horses and later killing them.

Signor Pezzone alleges that the motive for the crime was jealousy on the part of the two doctors at the success of the horses trained by Signor Ettore Fissotto, the owner of the racing world as well as by fellow horseowners. The third person, Enrico Galloppo, a stablehand, is accused of first drugging the horses and later killing them.

Signor Pezzone alleges that the motive for the crime was jealousy on the part of the two doctors at the success of the horses trained by Signor Ettore Fissotto, the owner of the racing world as well as by fellow horseowners. The third person, Enrico Galloppo, a stablehand, is accused of first drugging the horses and later killing them.

Signor Pezzone alleges that the motive for the crime was jealousy on the part of the two doctors at the success of the horses trained by Signor Ettore Fissotto, the owner of the racing world as well as by fellow horseowners. The third person, Enrico Galloppo, a stablehand, is accused of first drugging the horses and later killing them.

Signor Pezzone alleges that the motive for the crime was jealousy on the part of the two doctors at the success of the horses trained by Signor Ettore Fissotto, the owner of the racing world as well as by fellow horseowners. The third person, Enrico Galloppo, a stablehand, is accused of first drugging the horses and later killing them.

Signor Pezzone alleges that the motive for the crime was jealousy on the part of the two doctors at the success of the horses trained by Signor Ettore Fissotto, the owner of the racing world as well as by fellow horseowners. The third person, Enrico Galloppo, a stablehand, is accused of first drugging the horses and later killing them.

Signor Pezzone alleges that the motive for the crime was jealousy on the part of the two doctors at the success of the horses trained by Signor Ettore Fissotto, the owner of the racing world as well as by fellow horseowners. The third person, Enrico Galloppo, a stablehand, is accused of first drugging the horses and later killing them.

Signor Pezzone alleges that the motive for the crime was jealousy on the part of the two doctors at the success of the horses trained by Signor Ettore Fissotto, the owner of the racing world as well as by fellow horseowners. The third person, Enrico Galloppo, a stablehand, is accused of first drugging the horses and later killing them.

Signor Pezzone alleges that the motive for the crime was jealousy on the part of the two doctors at the success of the horses trained by Signor Ettore Fissotto, the owner of the racing world as well as by fellow horseowners. The third person, Enrico Galloppo, a stablehand, is accused of first drugging the horses and later killing them.

Signor Pezzone alleges that the motive for the crime was jealousy on the part of the two doctors at the success of the horses trained by Signor Ettore Fissotto, the owner of the racing world as well as by fellow horseowners. The third person, Enrico Galloppo, a stablehand, is accused of first drugging the horses and later killing them.

Signor Pezzone alleges that the motive for the crime was jealousy on the part of the two doctors at the success of the horses trained by Signor Ettore Fissotto, the owner of the racing world as well as by fellow horseowners. The third person, Enrico Galloppo, a stablehand, is accused of first drugging the horses and later killing them.

Signor Pezzone alleges that the motive for the crime was jealousy on the part of the two doctors at the success of the horses trained by Signor Ettore Fissotto, the owner of the racing world as well as by fellow horseowners. The third person, Enrico Galloppo, a stablehand, is accused of first drugging the horses and later killing them.

Signor Pezzone alleges that the motive for the crime was jealousy on the part of the two doctors at the success of the horses trained by Signor Ettore Fissotto, the owner of the racing world as well as by fellow horseowners. The third person, Enrico Galloppo, a stablehand, is accused of first drugging the horses and later killing them.

Signor Pezzone alleges that the motive for the crime was jealousy on the part of the two doctors at the success of the horses trained by Signor Ettore Fissotto, the owner of the racing world as well as by fellow horseowners. The third person, Enrico Galloppo, a stablehand, is accused of first drugging the horses and later killing them.

Signor Pezzone alleges that the motive for the crime was jealousy on the part of the two doctors at the success of the horses trained by Signor Ettore Fissotto, the owner of the racing world as well as by fellow horseowners. The third person, Enrico Galloppo, a stablehand, is accused of first drugging the horses and later killing them.

Peugeot h

BR

BR

BR

BR

BR

BR

BR

BR

BR

BR

BR

BR

BR

BR

BR

BR

BR

Time for Afrikaners to bury their dead and warn off ANC

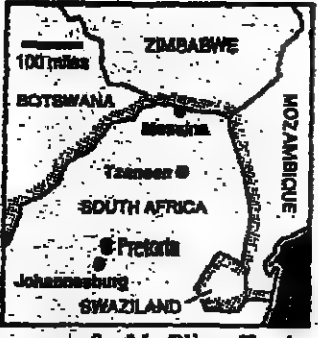
From Michael Hearnby
Tzaneen

In a year of countless funerals of black victims of the racist that has swept South Africa, it was the turn of the country's ruling white tribe yesterday to bury its dead in this small market town in the Eastern Transvaal.

A soft rain fell as about 600 grim-faced mourners crowded into the cemetery by the rugby pitch, many silently crying to watch coffins containing the members of the Van Eck family, all victims of last Sunday's landmine explosion near the Zimbabwe border, being lowered into the ground.

There was a large brown coffin for Mrs Jacoba Van Eck, aged 34, and two small white ones for her daughter, Nelmarie, aged eight, and her son, Ignatius, aged two, which were placed together in a grave alongside her own. Relatives cast flowers into the graves, and the menfolk began shovelling in the earth.

Later Mr Dirk Van Eck, who escaped unscathed from the explosion which killed most of the rest of his family, had a



Afrikaans-speaking country and you must learn Afrikaans," one of the other mourners shouted.

At the church service before the burial, the Dutch Reformed Church minister, the Rev Evert K. Kock, appealed to the congregation not to forget God's message of hope. "Where the dead are now, they are safe. No land-mines, no terrorists can reach them where they are with their master."

The church will be packed again today for a second funeral service for three members of the De Nysschen family, a girl, aged nine and her brother, aged three, and their grandmother, aged 59, who were killed also in last Sunday's explosion.

Both families have lived and farmed in the Tzaneen area for many years. They had gone north last weekend to watch game on a farm a few miles from the Zimbabwe border. It was there that their light truck detonated a landmine on an isolated dirt track.

Foreign diplomats did not respond to a suggestion by South Africa's state-controlled radio that they should attend the funeral in view of their presence last month at a mass funeral for blacks shot by the police in the black township of Mamelodi near Pretoria.

The funeral also was notable for the absence for any senior Government representatives. Even Mr Tom Langley, the extreme right-wing Conservative Party MP, in whose constituency Tzaneen falls, was not seen.

A cousin of Mr Van Eck's, Mr Johan Van Rooyen, told journalists that the Government should take a tougher line with "black hoodlums" or else people would take the law into their own hands.

Easy targets, page 5



Mr Dirk Van Eck being comforted by a member of his family after the funeral of his wife and children killed in a landmine explosion in South Africa.

Boesak passport rebuff

Johannesburg - An application by Dr Allan Boesak, a leading anti-apartheid activist and president of the World Council of Churches, for the return of his passport has been rejected by a judge of the Cape Town Supreme Court (Ray Kennedy writes).

Dr Boesak is on bail pending his trial, expected to be heard next May, on charges of subversion under the Internal Security Act which carry penalties of up to 20 years' imprisonment.

Last month a magistrate at Malmesbury in Cape Province ordered that Dr Boesak's passport be returned, saying it was most unlikely he would flee the country to avoid standing trial. But this decision was overruled by Mr Stoffel Botha, Minister of Internal Affairs.

Dr Boesak's application to the Cape Town Supreme Court for the return of his passport has been rejected with costs.

Cautious Shultz expects thaw with East to be only gradual

From Michael Binyou
Washington

Flushed from his outburst in Yugoslavia over terrorism, Mr George Shultz, the American Secretary of State, has reported to President Reagan on his first visit to Eastern Europe.

Mr Shultz explained his sudden anger at the press conference with Mr Rafi Dizdarevic, the Yugoslav Foreign Minister, by saying he was "speaking for the American people". He said he wanted people to see that the US felt very strong about terrorism. His denunciation has been well received here, especially by President Reagan.

He described the main results of his three-day tour as "educational". But he said he did not know whether it had advanced US interests. Though seen here as a result of the warmer East-West relations following the Geneva Summit

last month, Moscow can hardly have been pleased by the explicit attempt to encourage the independence from the Soviet line in Romania, Hungary and Yugoslavia.

His visit, which Moscow is likely to see as an attempt to sow division within the Warsaw Pact, distinguished between the relative independence in foreign policy and economic management of Romania and Hungary, and Moscow's staunch supporters such as Poland, East Germany, Bulgaria and Czechoslovakia.

Mr Shultz foresaw a gradual change in general East-West relations, but said it would be a slow, subtle and difficult process. The US could not influence that change much. "It's very much a question of what evolves in these countries," he said guardedly, clearly mindful of previous pressure from Moscow on those countries that the US has tried to reward for being more liberal.

But Mr Shultz made clear US refusal to accept Soviet hegemony. In a hard-hitting speech in West Berlin on the eve of his departure for Bucharest, he spoke of the "unnatural and inhuman" division of Europe. The US did "not accept incorporation of Eastern Europe into a Soviet sphere of influence". In the search for better relations with Moscow, President Reagan had not forgotten there could be no true peace "where there is repression, partition or mutual fear, or where we avert our eyes from unpleasant facts".

He told some home truths in Romania, the most contentious of his visits, where he warned President Ceausescu that his country's most-favoured national status would be cut off unless the repression of religion stopped.

100 survive Philippines sea disaster

Manila (AP) - The US Navy said yesterday that 100 people had been rescued or sighted alive and about 70 bodies had been seen floating in the sea one day after an inter-island ship capsized south of Manila.

Two killed in ambush after truce

Kampala (AP, Reuters) - A former MP and a lawyer were shot and killed by men in army uniforms, relatives said yesterday, two days after the signing of a peace treaty to end Uganda's civil war.



Shuttle's countdown stopped

The Subic Bay US naval base north of Manila said that as of 10 am yesterday 70 survivors had been rescued, and "as many as 30 survivors" were waiting in the water to be picked up.

The bodies were seen floating at the scene of Wednesday's sinking of the Assamco some 100 miles south of the capital, the US Navy said. It has been helping in the search for survivors and the recovery of bodies.

The Philippines Coast Guard said 75 passengers had been picked up as of 5 pm.

No official tally has available on the number of people on board the Assamco when it sank while en route to Manila from the western island of Palawan. Coast Guard officials had said there were "more or less 200". The official Philippines News Agency had reported 197 people on board, including a crew of 15, not 50 as earlier reported.

A Coast Guard official said in a telephone interview that it was not known if there were any foreigners on board.

Captain Daniel Delgado, Coast Guard Chief of Staff, said there was no word on what caused the 152-ton boat to capsize and sink. Philippines boats generally are packed during the Christmas season.

He said four boats, two helicopters, a fixed-wing plane and more than 100 military personnel were involved in the search and rescue.

The separate attacks occurred on Wednesday night in Kampala. The victims were identified as Mr Francis Kasuura, a former MP representing the Democratic Party, and a lawyer, Mr Joshua Bwalya.

A businessman riding in the car with Mr Bwalya was seriously wounded.

Residents in the Wakiso area, 10 miles northwest of Kampala, reported that army troops have been robbing townspeople since the Government and the National Resistance Army guerrillas signed a peace treaty on Tuesday.

The Kampala newspaper *Munira* reported that rampaging army troops killed 30 people last week in the Mpigi district, 30 miles west of the capital.

Munira, which is supported by the Roman Catholic Church, said the Government troops looted homes, raped women and pushed people into houses which they had set on fire.

The peace treaty signed in Nairobi declared an immediate cease-fire in the war waged by the NRA since early 1981. But field commanders were given 48 hours to implement it.

Court win for Dolly Parton

Dolly Parton, the singer, did not copy the work of two song writers when she wrote her hit tune "9 to 5", the theme music for the film of the same name, a Los Angeles federal jury has ruled.

Miss Parton, aged 39, who even performed part of the disputed song in the witness box, denied stealing the tune from Mr Neil Goldberg and his wife, Jan, who were suing for \$1 million.

Shuttle's countdown stopped

The launch of the Shuttle Columbia, the oldest of America's fleet of spacecrafts, was postponed yesterday 14 seconds before blastoff because of mechanical difficulties (Mohsin Ali writes).

The postponement was the second in 24 hours. It left the crew of seven forlornly waiting for minutes on their helmets. They were on a Christmas scientific mission and included Representative Bill Nelson, a congressional observer and the first Hispanic astronaut, Franklin Chang-Diaz.

Nasa officials said that one of the two hydraulic solid booster rockets exceeded the "red line" (high temperature safety line) and the main computer then shut off the countdown just before ignition.

The original launch on Wednesday had already been put off for 24 hours after final systems checks fell behind schedule. Blast-off will not be before Christmas and the date will be announced later.

Mr Nelson, a Florida Democrat, represents the district that includes Cape Canaveral and the Kennedy Space Centre, from where the Columbia is to take off and land.

He will be the second Shuttle congressional observer this year. Senator Jake Garn, a Utah Republican, made a space trip last April. He is chairman of a Senate subcommittee that oversees Nasa funding.

Columbia was delivered to Cape Kennedy in 1979 and was the first of America's orbiting spacecraft.

Greens surveillance defended

From Frank Johnson, Bonn

Herr Friedrich Zimmermann, Bonn's Minister of the Interior, has described as "legal" the keeping of files by the internal security service on the Greens. West Germany's left-wing environmentalists.

He did so while testifying before the domestic affairs committee of Parliament, which is investigating the affair. The claim that it was all legal has only served to make the practice worse, from the point of view of those who are outraged by it. These include, not just the Greens, but the Free Democrats (FDP), West Germany's Liberals, and the junior partner in Herr Helmut Kohl's centre-right coalition Government.

The controversy was kept going yesterday, when, for the second time in three days, extracts from the offending files turned up in *Bild*, the mass circulation daily which is curiously authoritative about matters to do with security. These contained references to short prison sentences served by one Green member of the Bonn Parliament and three Green members of the European Parliament for peripheral involvement with terrorism in the 1970s and early 1980s.

These sentences were always on the public record, but will probably come as news to many voters. The files also gave details of links between many Greens and extreme, but legal, left wing groups.

The controversy started when a parliamentary committee discovered that a junior Minister of the Interior, Herr Carl-Dieter Spranger, had asked to see the files. The extent to which he was shown them, or the use to which he wanted to put them are unclear. Herr Spranger, like Herr Zimmermann, is from the Christian Social Union (CSU), the right wing of the coalition.

The Free Democrats have not demanded Herr Spranger's resignation, but are letting it be known that he would "do a service" to the Government by resigning.

Hopes of cutting EEC food mountain dashed

From Richard Owen, Brussels

European agriculture ministers yesterday gave a dusty reception to Commission proposals for reform of the EEC's much criticised common agricultural policy (CAP), dashing hopes of a swift solution to the growing food mountains.

The EEC is trying to tie up the loose ends of Community policy in a variety of areas before the end of the year and the accession of Spain and Portugal in 1986. Yesterday, the farm ministers, including Mr Michael Jopling of Britain, debated the Green Paper on reform of the CAP put forward by the Commission last June.

In an evaluation of the Green Paper proposals Mr Frans Andriessen, the EEC Commissioner for Farm Policy, said EEC intervention to buy up

surpluses had become a way of disposing of extra farm production "without the effort or risk of marketing". It should revert to being the measure of last resort or "safety net" it was originally intended to be.

Such "open ended guarantees" had isolated Europe's farmers from real market forces, Mr Andriessen said in guidelines for the Council of Ministers and European Parliament.

But Mr Jopling and other ministers opposed Mr Andriessen's attempt to reform the CAP by shifting the priority away from price support mechanisms toward direct income help for the small farmer, coupled with aid for farmers in regions where land use was vital for environmental or social reasons.

Homosexuals 'more aware of Aids danger'

A slowing down of the increase in Aids cases in the US can be attributed partly to much greater awareness of the dangers by the high-risk groups of homosexuals and intravenous drug addicts (Alan McGregor writes).

This emerged from the three-day meeting at the World Health Organization headquarters of some 30 doctors and virologists from 17 countries.

A major change in homosexuals' life-style was noted by Dr William Dowdle, director of the Centre for Disease Control. But even if the numbers of their sexual partners had decreased, he said, "the chances of their contracting the virus have increased as more of the individuals they are in contact with may have it".

TV problem

Peking (AP) - Television is taking over in many Chinese homes, bringing such problems as undue homework, copycat violence and a generation gap, according to the Shanghai-based magazine *Social Sciences*, which recommended that children should spend only 40 minutes a day watching TV.

Sense of accomplishment for UN in anniversary year

From Zoriana Pysacivski
New York

Hampered by the spectre of terrorism, the United Nations General Assembly set aside 10 years of conflicting passions and ideological arguments to condemn all acts of terrorism in what became the highlight of the fortieth session.

In October, in her address to the special session commemorating the UN's fortieth anniversary, Mrs Thatcher struck on the theme of terrorism. British diplomats were instrumental in finding an acceptable definition, and the consensus resolution means that countries, at least on paper, now are obligated to fight terrorism absolutely.

The measures against terrorism gave the session, which opened in September and adjourned on Wednesday, a more relevant flavour than in previous years. This sense of accomplishment was also felt after difficult deliberations on the 1986-87 UN budget. It appeared the Assembly had taken the first steps towards avoiding drastic and paralyzing cuts in the American contribution through several key reforms.

Dealing with the most emotive issues on the way the UN spends its money, the Assembly found salaries and budgets future salaries to be between 110 and 120 per cent of comparable salaries in the

American civil service which is the highest paid in the world. It also adopted a Japanese proposal setting up a panel of experts to produce concrete suggestions for budgetary reform.

On the last day of the session, Senator Javier Perez de Cuellar, the UN Secretary General, took a rare strong stand against the Congressional amendment which ordered a cut of 25 per cent of the American contribution unless weighted voting was introduced in the UN on budgetary matters. He said unilateral withholding of assessed contributions were unconstitutional, but although many delegates resented

Washington's heavy handedness most agreed that the American threat sparked a serious look at reform.

A procession of world leaders marked the special commemorative session which was dominated by East-West stagecraft before the Geneva Summit.

Many ideas for strengthening its effectiveness are also mooted, ranging from the adoption of fewer resolutions to less selective censuring of Israel and South Africa.

The Assembly also had before it a report by the Joint Inspection Unit, a watchdog group, appointed by member governments, which questioned the basic concept of the UN as

peace-maker and peace keeper, saying this was based on quixotic notions.

In condemning human rights violations in Afghanistan and Iran, the Assembly went beyond right-wing regimes in Latin America in spotlighting human rights targets and responded to long-standing criticism of selective outrage.

But there was growing concern that the UN investigations into allegations of human rights abuse had become difficult.

Britain had two embarrassing diplomatic defeats over the Falkland Islands, and France, usually immune to criticism, was chastened for nuclear testing in the South Pacific.

Cracks found before jet crashed in Japan

Tokyo (Reuters, AFP) - Cracks were discovered in the rear bulkhead of the Japanese Air Lines Boeing 747 before it crashed in August with the loss of 520 lives, Transport Ministry accident investigators said yesterday.

It was believed that a foot-long crack in the bulkhead was caused by metal fatigue. Small cracks were also found around 58 rivets on the bulkhead, which separated the tail section from the passenger cabin, the investigators said in a report.

Depressurized air from broken parts of the bulkhead seriously damaged the vertical fin of the tail assembly, putting

the aircraft out of control during the Tokyo to Osaka flight.

"The latest report contained nothing deviating from what had internally been said about the cause," said Mr Hiroshi Fujiwara, the ministry's deputy investigator general.

In September Boeing said that its repairs on the plane's rear pressure bulkhead had been faulty. A relatively small section was not correctly installed during repairs after the aircraft made a rough landing in 1978 so that it was held by two rows of rivets instead of the normal three.

Mugabe sacks his police chief

Harare - Mr Wiridzayi Nguvuru, Zimbabwe's Commissioner of Police has been sacked for corrupt practices and two of the four deputy commissioners have also been dismissed for their involvement (Jan Raath writes).

Mr Robert Mugabe, the Prime Minister, said at a press conference that Mr Nguvuru had been found by a commission of inquiry to have been responsible for gross maladministration, abuse of rank, misuse of government funds and property, interference in criminal investigation, and the corrupt disposal of drugs seized by police, including "several thousand" tablets of the banned soporific Mandrax.

Mr Mugabe said Mr Nguvuru had sought "love relations" with policewomen who had been transferred to remote locations when they rebuffed his advances.

Facing trial

Madrid (Reuters) - The Spanish Government granted the extradition of an Argentine ultra-rightist, Raul Guglieminetti, to face trial in Buenos Aires over the 1984 murder of industrialist Emilio Neum.

Arson attack

Hagen, West Germany (Reuters) - A firm in this Ruhr town which manufactures parachutes for the West German Army suffered an arson attack which caused damage estimated at up to 10 million marks (\$2.85 million).

Malta bomb

Valletta (Reuters) - Three policemen and a 12-year-old girl were injured when a bomb went off outside the window of a police station in Sliema, five miles north of here.

Bonner warned

Boston (AP) - Mrs Yelena Bonner, aged 62, wife of Soviet dissident Dr Andrei Sakharov, has been told by doctors that she does not need heart surgery and that a tumour removed from her lip was benign. But they said she must stop smoking, take drugs to increase the blood flow to her heart and take regular exercise.

Ice boy dies



Nine-year-old Jeremy Gihoni, who was rescued from an icy pond in Ohio after spending 45 minutes under water, was placed in a drug-induced coma at a Columbus hospital to reduce damage to his brain, but died later. In attempts to raise his body temperature, doctors used a heart-bypass machine.

Brothers stay

Stockholm (Reuters) - Sweden will let two teenage brothers who fled from Poland stay, despite objections by Warsaw. The Immigration Minister announced.

Dowry toll

Delhi (AP) - Thirty-two women were burnt to death in the Indian capital between April and October this year for failing to meet dowry demands by their husbands' families, the Minister of State for Home Affairs told Parliament. At least 80 people were arrested in connection with dowry-related crimes, but no charge had been made.

Walls of gold

Perth (Reuters) - Officials at the state mint factory in Perth said about 1,000 ounces of gold had vaporized during 86 years of refining and the walls and ceiling would have to be melted to separate the \$450,000 (£243,000) worth of gold from the brickwork. The factory is being relocated.

www.ams.org | 1-800-354-6788 | www.ams.org | 1-800-354-6788 | www.ams.org | 1-800-354-6788

**You may now use your
MasterCard or Visa Card when
placing your advertising**

**Edited by Peter Dear
and Peter Davalle**

CHOICE

10.15 New Premises: another seat for **Stephen Games's** off-beat review.

11.00 **Emil Gilels**, the pianist, who earlier this year, plays **Shostakovich's Sonata in A minor**, Op. 107, at the **Kronos Quartet's** 6th annual concert.

11.57 News, **12.00** **Closedown**.

Radio 2

News on the hour (except 9.00 pm)
Headlines 5.30 am, 8.30, 7.30, 5.30
Sports Desks 1.45 pm, 2.02, 3.02, 4.02
5.05, 6.02, 6.45 (MP) only, 9.55, 4.45
Coin Review, 6.40 **Ray Moore's** 7.00
Ken Bruce's 10.30 **John Young's** 11.00
Legal problems answered by **Bill Thomas's** 1.05 pm **David Jacobs**
Gloria Hunniford's 3.30 **Musical** all 4.00
4.40 **David Hamilton's** 6.00
6.40 **John Peel's** 7.00
From the **Hippodrome**, **Robins** **Gay** **London**. Introduced by **Golden Boy**
With **Manly Hall Smith**, **Joan Saver**,
Peter Morrison, **Urbie Sire** and the
Nigel Brooks **Singers**. The **BBC** **C**

Radio 4

- 12.05 Midway Concert: BBC Scottish
SO under Makhmalbakh. With
John Wilson (piano).
Tchaikovsky's Overture-Ismail
Dimitri and Juliet:
Makhmalbakh's Piano Concerto
No 1.1. 1.00 News.
- 12.06 Musical Times Past: Victorian
music-making, recalled by
Felix Sologin.
- 12.20 Concert: part two. Borodin's
overture Prince Igor; and
Gershwin's No 2.
Gershwin and Maykat: Susan
Tomes (piano). Gershwin's No
2. A pathway to jazz: a number
of other songs; and Billy Mayerl
The harp of the winds: Loco
Ivory: Jaccarante; Mangok.
12.30 The orchestra: the comedies
and symphonies
concerts and plays: *Symphonia*
for Concert Band (Philharmonia
Orchestra); and the comedies
and plays: *Symphonia* de
Harmónia der (Berlin PO also under
the composer).
- 12.35 Bach and Scarlatti: Virginia Bay
(harpichord). Bach's Fantasia
and Fugue in A minor, BWV
998. Scarlatti's Sonata in F
major, K 318 and 319).
- 12.40 The Kingston Consort
Music: a selection from this year's
Edington Festival. Includes a
Bach organ Voluntary Fugue
in A major, BWV 542. Also
performance of the *motet*
Salvato angelica (Philip
Moore). 4.55 News.
- 13.00 Music: a selection of records
Nichols' selection of recorder
music. John Rutter's
Christmas. John Brather's
tabernacle.
13.05 Guitar music: Vladimir Mikulic
plays Lully's Partita in A minor.
Tombeux plays a guitar.
Monsieur le Comte de Logy:
Castellano-Tedesco's
Capriccio diabolico.
13.10 Music: Record: English
Baroque Soloists perform the
Suite No 4 in D, BWV 1068.
13.20 New London Concert: part
two. New London Concert
No 1.
13.30 National History: Irrational
Past
Various interpretations of the
origins of the Second World
War, presented by Dr Richard
Overy, lecturer at King's College
London.
13.30 Concert: part two. The Feast
of St. Francis.
13.45 Tchaikovsky: Philharmonia
under Makhmalbakh.
Mud play the Mantra

CENTRAL As London except
9.25am Once Upon a

CENTRAL As London except:
9.25am Once Upon
a Time, Man, 9.50am The World
10.15 Scitarré 11.15-12.00 The
News, 11.30 Scrooge's "Rc" in
Christmas, 2.30-3.20 Florida Film
3.30-7.00 The World, 7.00-8.00
Benny Hill Show, 11.05 Film: Frank
Hitchcock thriller, 1.15am Cosmo.

GRANADA As London except:
9.25am Film: Two
Men in a Boat, 10.15 Time to
12.00 Sesame Street,
Reports, 1.30 Yellow Rose, 2.25-
3.15 Live on Friday, 8.00 Granada Film
9.30-7.00 Cosby Show, 10.30-11.00
Preston, 11.15 Film: Zulu Dawn (E
Lancaster), 1.20am Cosmo.

BORDER As London except:
9.25am Sesame Str
10.35 Wild World of Animals, 10.55
Sundae, 11.15-12.00 The
House on the Prairie, 11.55-12.00
Professor Kitzel, 1.20pm News, 1
2.30-7.00 Cosby Show, 10.30-11.00
George Burns, 3.30-4.00 Young
Doctors, 5.00-7.15 Uncle John's
Christmas Party, 10.30 All Star Ro
Cost: 12.00 News, Cosmo.

WYKSHIRE As London except:
9.25am American
Classics, 9.55 Strawberry Shortc
10.15 Smurfs, 10.30 Simba Voyage
10.55-11.00 The World, 11.00-12.00
Christmas Story, 1.25 Film: Hey
1.30-3.30 Film: We're no Angels
(Humphrey Bogart), 10.30-12.00
7.00 Different Stripes, 10.30 All Star
Cost: 12.00 Short Story
Theatre, 12.30am Cosmo.

WHAT THE SYMBOLS MEAN
♦ Stereo, ♦ Black and white, ♦ Hi-Fi

[illegible]

Lloyd's interests 'a vipers' nest'

Continued from page 1

going to send a report to the Lord Chancellor about a case which Mr John Bickford Smith, the Senior Master of the Supreme Court, intervened.

The action, for a \$2.7 million insurance claim for precious stones stolen in Los Angeles, involved about 15,000 Lloyd's names and although Mr Bickford Smith had not been listed to deal with it, he had "grabbed it for himself" in spite of a warning that one of the defendants was called J Bickford-Smith - with a hyphen.

Mr Sedgemore said it had been established that the defendant was a cousin of the Senior Master and that another of the Supreme Court Masters was also a defendant in the case, which was eventually struck out. "It is all beginning to look very murky," he said. "When the Lord Chancellor looks into this case he is going to find a real vipers' nest."

Mr Sedgemore said at the start of his speech that despite the years of fraud there had been no arrests, charges or trials. He also said that there seemed to be no limit to what some of those "involved in those frauds will do."

The most startling thing happened about three weeks ago, he said. "Mr Abdul Shamji, who believes there is no one he cannot buy, tried to buy me."

He said that Mr Shamji had

contacted one of the MP's informants and at a meeting in the Pavilion Bar in Park Lane's Grosvenor House, he had "put forward a proposal which amounted to an attempt to buy me."

Yesterday Mr Shamji described Mr Sedgemore's claim as "unbelievable" (Stewart Trender writes).

The suggestion that he had tried to bribe the Labour MP was a "load of rubbish". Mr Shamji said "How would I bribe him anyway?"

Mr John Bickford Smith said yesterday he had not heard of Mr Sedgemore's claims. He told *The Times* that he did not remember any counsel in the case of Tubero v Toomey telling him that one of the defendants in the case had the same name.

He said he was not and had never been a Lloyd's underwriter. He had a cousin who had the same name, but spelt with a hyphen, who was an underwriter but he did not know the names involved in the case.

He said the case involved "a chap who had litigation running in America and also tried to start litigation here for the same cause. It has been before me several times in fact."

Mr Bickford Smith said: "You have got no idea who the names are in the syndicates because there is only one named in the writ, a representative underwriter."

Parliament, page 4

Solicitor general wary on fraud report to DPP

Sir Patrick Mayhew, the Solicitor General, said yesterday that he was unable to discover how many fraud reports had been submitted to the Director of Public Prosecutions in each of the past six years (Anthony Bevins, Our Political Correspondent writes).

In a letter to Mr Frank Dobson, the Labour MP for Holborn and St Pancras, he said that he had hoped to reply to a Commons question on DPP reports and prosecutions, but "it could not be done".

Mr Dobson pointed out last night that the House of Commons library had been able to provide City of London Police figures and said of Sir Patrick's response: "This is

either incompetence or they are hiding something."

The City of London company figures showed that between the end of 1981 and the start of this year the number of cases under investigation had risen from 90 to 117.

The number of reports sent to the DPP by the company fraud department had increased from 38 to 42, but the number of Crown Court trials had remained at 18.

Mr Bryan Gould, a shadow spokesman, said that the City of London Police had said that there had been an increase of 42 per cent in fraud last year. "If they can produce the information, why can't the Solicitor General?" he asked.

Concorde's test pilot retires with regrets

By Alan Hamilton

It is a disturbing 16 years and more since the name of Trubshaw, which might well have been invented for a bit-part player in a Biggles adventure, was on the lips of the nation. Trubshaw was the pilot who lifted the greatest silver bird of all off the ground and showed that Concorde could fly.

Mr Brian Trubshaw, Concorde's British chief test pilot who has since suffered the regular fate of anonymity, retired yesterday as divisional director and general manager, British Aerospace, Filton, the seat of one of the most distinguished pairs of pants in postwar British civil aviation has been grounded.

With his sixtieth birthday fast gaining on the port beam, Mr Trubshaw is too old for such hair-raising work; he hopes for some ground-based consultancy work, but has no plans to fly again, although his pilot's licence will remain in perfect order.

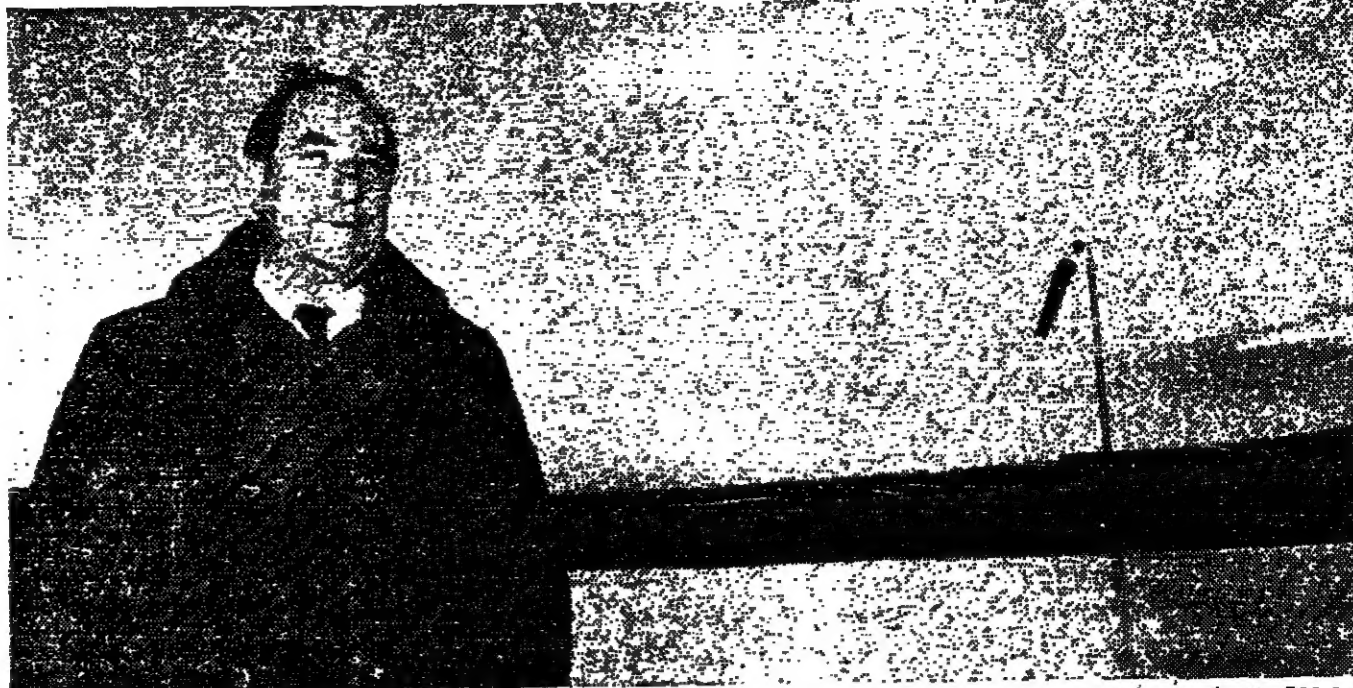
It was on April 9, 1969 that Mr Trubshaw first took to the air, for 22 minutes from Filton to Fairford, in 110 tons of Anglo-French technology, and pronounced it wizard. Yesterday, deskbound in his Bristol office after a farewell lunch with colleagues, he aired his regrets.

Concorde was the biggest challenge of his career. It is a magnificent aeroplane. I very much regret that only 20 were built, and that it was not a greater commercial success with other airlines, particularly as British Airways are now showing what a commercially viable operation it can be.

Mr Trubshaw, a former captain of cricket at Winchester, was first bitten by the flying bug when eight. He saw the Prince of Wales's stringbag - "some kind of Moth, I think" - land on the beach at Penarth in South Wales. He became a wartime bomber pilot, and managed to stick at his trade while others were being demobilized.

After a spell with the King's Flight, piloting a George VI around South Africa, he became a full-time test pilot for Vickers-Armstrong, and has been the man in charge of proving almost every major British civilian airliner.

He flew the Viscount, Vanguard, BAC One-Eleven, Valiant bomber, and VC-10. The latter induced his greatest moment of fear, when on an



Brian Trubshaw surveying British Aerospace's airfield at Filton, from which he made his first Concorde flight



In 1947, while serving with the King's Flight (left) and with M Turcat and Concorde 001.

early proving flight a mechanical failure wiped out essential elevator controls. He needed all his considerable skill to get machine and crew back safely.

"Fear was an essential part of my work. In the right context, it is the correct thing to feel, otherwise you have nothing to tell you when you are approaching the limits of safety."

He subsequently became the first man to win the coveted Derry and Richards Trophy of the Guild of Air Pilots and Air Navigators twice.

He became Britain's foremost civilian test pilot after the Comet disaster of the 1950s.

During the most important project of his career, there was always a Prizom of rivalry between Mr Trubshaw and M Andre Turcat, the French chief test pilot who was nominally superior. "Il vole", M Turcat declared after his maiden flight.

"A very nice flight," Mr Trubshaw said after his.

Rarely was ambition so fully achieved for a schoolboy who took his first flight in a Blenheim under the guidance of a Fleet Air Arm liaison officer, Lieutenant Laurence Olivier, who was less bitten by flying than his pupil.

France refuses jet sale

France is not prepared to sell Concorde to Britain, despite having a heavily underutilized fleet, M Marcel Long, chairman of Air France, said yesterday (Michael Bailey writes).

There has been no formal approach from the much busier British Airways M Long disclosed but if there were, the airline would prefer to utilize its fleet more fully.

With seven Concorde each, BA carries 100,000 passengers a

year compared with 45,000, and makes a £10m plus profit, compared with £5m to £8m by Air France.

But France's attachment to its Concorde as they achieve 10 years in commercial service next month, is far more than commercial. Concorde is a symbol of France's high technology, a sales focus for a range of other products, and if Concorde disappeared, there would be a "national drama" among the French people, M Long said.

Gorbachov offer to US on test sites

Continued from page 1

the American side agreed to join it.

Claiming that the USSR had already supported the idea of using an international verification system, *Pravda* said: "The Soviet Union is prepared to go even further. It stands for coming to terms with the United States on certain measures of on-site verification to remove the possible doubts about compliance with such a moratorium."

The verification problem thus cannot be seen as an impediment to reaching an agreement on a mutual moratorium. It is quite soluble and the Soviet Union proposes concrete ways of resolving it in a mutually acceptable way.

European sources here have expressed concern that President Reagan could find himself

Tests chronology

1974 - US and Soviet Union conclude the Threshold Test Ban Treaty to limit the size of underground weapons tests to 150 kilotons. The treaty was not ratified by the US.

1977 - The US, Soviet Union and Britain open talks on a Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty (CTBT).

1980 - CTBT talks abandoned after the Afghanistan invasion.

1982 - President Reagan announces the US will not resume CTBT negotiations.

1985 - Mr Gorbachov announces a unilateral moratorium on underground nuclear tests from August 6 until the end of 1985.

diplomatically wrong-footed by Mr Gorbachov if the United States flatly rejects the latest Soviet initiative.

The sources pointed out the offer was vague and would only apply if the ban had first been imposed, but they conceded that it was the first time that the Soviet Union had raised the prospect of outsiders visiting its military testing sites.

LONDON: The Soviet Union formally called on Britain yesterday to resume the bilateral negotiations on a comprehensive test ban treaty (CTBT) which were broken off by the Americans in 1980.

THE TIMES INFORMATION SERVICE

Today's events

Royal engagements
The Duke of Edinburgh, Patron and Twelfth Man of the Lord's Taverners, presents the County Championship trophy to the Middlesex County Cricket Club, Buckingham Palace, 11.

Exhibitions in progress
Patrick Proctor prints lends Jan 26; New drawings by Tim Hadfield lends Jan 12; Southampton Art Gallery, Civic Centre, Tues to Fri 10 to 5, Sat 10 to 4, Sun 2 to 5.
Recent paintings and original drawings by Peter Beaver and ceramics by Phil Jolley: Helios Pictures, 2 Salisbury Rd, Moseley, Birmingham; Mon to Sat 4.30 to 6 (ends Jan 9).

Eye for Detail - Wood engraving by Kathleen Lindsey; Museum of Lakeland Life and Industry, Abbot Hall, Kendal, Cumbria; Mon to Fri 10.30 to 5.30, Sat and Sun 2 to 5 (ends Dec 22).
Oils, watercolours and ceramics by Dora Holzhaender; Beaux Arts, York Street, Bath; Mon to Sat 10 to 5 (ends Dec 24).
Between Dark and Dark - photographic work by Thomas Joshua Cooper; Third Eye Centre, 350 Sauchiehall Street, Glasgow; Tues to Sat 10 to 5, Sun 2 to 5.30 (ends Dec 21).
Tolly Colbold Eastern Arts fifth national exhibition; Laing Art Gallery, Highgate Place, Newcastle upon Tyne; Mon to Fri 10 to 5.30, Sat 10 to 4.30, Sun 2.30 to 5.30 (ends Jan 12 1986).

Illustrations by Alan Lee from his books: Theatre Royal, Royal Parade, Plymouth; Mon to Sat 10 to 10 (ends Jan 18).
Crafts for Christmas; Cleveland Craft Centre, 97 Gilke St, Middlesbrough; Tues to Fri 10 to 5 (ends Dec 21).
Unfamiliar Burne-Jones - a selection of works; Birmingham Museum and Art Gallery, Chamberlain Sq; Mon to Sat 10 to 5, Sun 2 to 5 (ends Dec 29).
Crafts for Christmas; Portland Gallery, High Street, Southwold, Suffolk; Mon to Sat 9 to 1 and 2 to 5.30, closed Wed and Sun (ends Dec 21).
A Partridge in a Pear Tree; Work by artists and craftsmen with Christmas presents in mind; Chichester House Gallery, High St, Chichester, Sussex; Tues to Sat 11 to 1 and 2.30 to 5 (ends Dec 24).

Christmas fare

Prices seem relatively unimportant when it comes to buying food for the Christmas period. Although Brussels sprouts are slightly more expensive than last year, at 32-40p a lb, no one will deprive themselves for that. The crop is down a quarter on last year's yield, so order early to avoid disappointment. Calabrese is down in price because of the mild weather between 30-35p a lb. Chinese leaves are ideal for the long holiday at 30-36p a lb, and tomatoes are cheaper than last year at 45-65p a lb.

Cranberries are an obvious pick of the week and very versatile. Perfect with poultry, they also make excellent puddings and sorbets. They are sold in 6 or 12 oz packs at 60p and 80-95p respectively.

Supermarket turkeys range from 57-59p a lb (frozen) to Tesco's fresh turkeys at 96p a lb. Tesco also have fresh premium whole turkey without wing tips and washbone removed at £1.06 a lb. Dewhurst have large chickens weighing 4lb 4oz at 59p a lb. Other good buys for the holiday are Beam Grade A chicken 44p a lb and 5lb packs of boneless half gammon joints £1.39.

Saleway boneless skinned chicken thighs £1.85 and bone-in skinned chicken legs £1.39 a lb. Fine Fare frozen turkeys, as well as giving ideas for left-overs and other Christmas fare, a free booklet is also available to take. Dial 100 and ask for Freephone Butcher.

Fresh supplies will be short for a few days after the Christmas period. However, there is an excellent choice of quality fish now and prices of many varieties are down. Some average prices this weekend are: large cod fillet £1.60 a lb, haddock £1.65, whiting £1.19, plaice £1.82.

Travel

Roads:
Wales and West M5: Two lanes closed southbound between junctions 9 (Tewkesbury) and 10 (Cheltenham). A36: Long term roadworks on the Salisbury to Wilton road. A48: Roundabout construction at Clapp Park between Newport and Cardiff. Gwent: lane closures at weekends and off peak times.

The North: M61: Left hand lane closures on both carriageways at Blacow Bridge (junction M61/M6); construction of new motorway link on M61 at Walton Summit. A34: Water main work at various points in Congleton town centre. Chester: local diversions; traffic controls; severe delays. A64: Contraflow at Manton bypass, Yorkshire; major resurfacing and construction work; delays in peak periods.

South: M74: The inside lane is closed southbound at both the Maryville interchange and the exit slip roads from the M73, Strathclyde. A96: Two sets of roadworks on the Great Northern Rd causing delays, firstly at Don St and also at Anderson Drive; the roadworks are in connection with the dual carriageway construction which is affecting Aberdeen Airport. N28: Surface repairs on the eastbound carriageway W of junction 5 (Shotts/Harhill); also patching on the westbound carriageway between junctions 5 and 6 (Airdrie).

Information supplied by the AA

Rail
British Rail are operating special services with many extra trains over the Christmas and New Year holidays. Passengers are advised to check train times before travelling. A day by day guide to the general level of services is:

December 22: Monday service with relief trains to major destinations.
December 23: Tuesday service with some extra trains in the early part of the day, although commuter trains will not run. There will be late evening or overnight services. The train will close down at 11pm - most trains will start their last journey some time before then.

December 24: A Friday service will start from ground down but some peak hour trains will not run.
December 25: Normal Saturday service.
December 26: Normal Sunday service.
December 27: Monday service with relief trains for returning holidaymakers although some services will not run.

December 31: Tuesday service, some business routes particularly to Scotland, No overnight trains.
January 1: In England and Wales a Wednesday service will operate on most lines from around 6am. Some local lines will have a Sunday or no service. The train to Scotland.
January 2: Thursday service; relief trains in England and Wales; limited service will operate on most lines only in Scotland.
January 3: Normal Friday service; additional trains for returning holidaymakers, particularly from Scotland.

Weather forecast

A strong W or SW airstream will persist over Britain with frontal troughs moving NE into W and N areas.

6 am to midnight

London: SE, central S, E, England, East Angles, Midlands, Channel Islands: Sunny intervals, mainly dry; drizzle SW; max temp 11C (52F).
SW England, S Wales: Becoming cloudy, a light rain or drizzle in places; drizzle SW; max temp 11C (52F).
N Wales, NW, central N, NE England, Borders, Edinburgh, Dundee, Aberdeen: Bright intervals, becoming cloudy; drizzle SW; max temp 11C (52F).
Wales, NW, central N, NE England, Borders, Edinburgh, Dundee, Aberdeen: Bright intervals, becoming cloudy; drizzle SW; max temp 11C (52F).

SE, central S, E, England, East Angles, Midlands, Channel Islands: Sunny intervals, mainly dry; drizzle SW; max temp 11C (52F).
SW England, S Wales: Becoming cloudy, a light rain or drizzle in places; drizzle SW; max temp 11C (52F).
N Wales, NW, central N, NE England, Borders, Edinburgh, Dundee, Aberdeen: Bright intervals, becoming cloudy; drizzle SW; max temp 11C (52F).

SE, central S, E, England, East Angles, Midlands, Channel Islands: Sunny intervals, mainly dry; drizzle SW; max temp 11C (52F).
SW England, S Wales: Becoming cloudy, a light rain or drizzle in places; drizzle SW; max temp 11C (52F).
N Wales, NW, central N, NE England, Borders, Edinburgh, Dundee, Aberdeen: Bright intervals, becoming cloudy; drizzle SW; max temp 11C (52F).

SE, central S, E, England, East Angles, Midlands, Channel Islands: Sunny intervals, mainly dry; drizzle SW; max temp 11C (52F).
SW England, S Wales: Becoming cloudy, a light rain or drizzle in places; drizzle SW; max temp 11C (52F).
N Wales, NW, central N, NE England, Borders, Edinburgh, Dundee, Aberdeen: Bright intervals, becoming cloudy; drizzle SW; max temp 11C (52F).

SE, central S, E, England, East Angles, Midlands, Channel Islands: Sunny intervals, mainly dry; drizzle SW; max temp 11C (52F).
SW England, S Wales: Becoming cloudy, a light rain or drizzle in places; drizzle SW; max temp 11C (52F).
N Wales, NW, central N, NE England, Borders, Edinburgh, Dundee, Aberdeen: Bright intervals, becoming cloudy; drizzle SW; max temp 11C (52F).

SE, central S, E, England, East Angles, Midlands, Channel Islands: Sunny intervals, mainly dry; drizzle SW; max temp 11C (52F).
SW England, S Wales: Becoming cloudy, a light rain or drizzle in places; drizzle SW; max temp 11C (52F).
N Wales, NW, central N, NE England, Borders, Edinburgh, Dundee, Aberdeen: Bright intervals, becoming cloudy; drizzle SW; max temp 11C (52F).

SE, central S, E, England, East Angles, Midlands, Channel Islands: Sunny intervals, mainly dry; drizzle SW; max temp 11C (52F).
SW England, S Wales: Becoming cloudy, a light rain or drizzle in places; drizzle SW; max temp 11C (52F).
N Wales, NW, central N, NE England, Borders, Edinburgh, Dundee, Aberdeen: Bright intervals, becoming cloudy; drizzle SW; max temp 11C (52F).

SE, central S, E, England, East Angles, Midlands, Channel Islands: Sunny intervals, mainly dry; drizzle SW; max temp 11C (52F).
SW England, S Wales: Becoming cloudy, a light rain or drizzle in places; drizzle SW; max temp 11C (52F).
N Wales, NW, central N, NE England, Borders, Edinburgh, Dundee, Aberdeen: Bright intervals, becoming cloudy; drizzle SW; max temp 11C (52F).

SE, central S, E, England, East Angles, Midlands, Channel Islands: Sunny intervals, mainly dry; drizzle SW; max temp 11C (52F).
SW England, S Wales: Becoming cloudy, a light rain or drizzle in places; drizzle SW; max temp 11C (52F).
N Wales, NW, central N, NE England, Borders, Edinburgh, Dundee, Aberdeen: Bright intervals, becoming cloudy; drizzle SW; max temp 11C (52F).

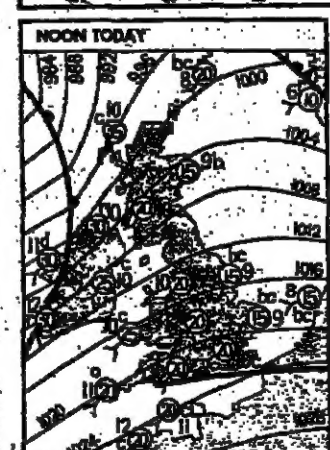
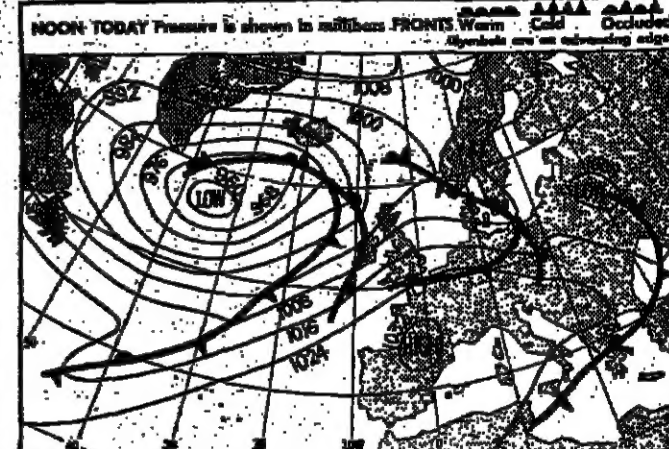
SE, central S, E, England, East Angles, Midlands, Channel Islands: Sunny intervals, mainly dry; drizzle SW; max temp 11C (52F).
SW England, S Wales: Becoming cloudy, a light rain or drizzle in places; drizzle SW; max temp 11C (52F).
N Wales, NW, central N, NE England, Borders, Edinburgh, Dundee, Aberdeen: Bright intervals, becoming cloudy; drizzle SW; max temp 11C (52F).

SE, central S, E, England, East Angles, Midlands, Channel Islands: Sunny intervals, mainly dry; drizzle SW; max temp 11C (52F).
SW England, S Wales: Becoming cloudy, a light rain or drizzle in places; drizzle SW; max temp 11C (52F).
N Wales, NW, central N, NE England, Borders, Edinburgh, Dundee, Aberdeen: Bright intervals, becoming cloudy; drizzle SW; max temp 11C (52F).

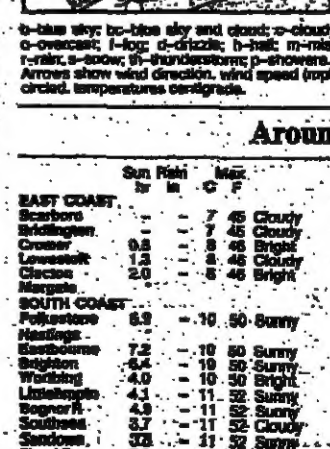
SE, central S, E, England, East Angles, Midlands, Channel Islands: Sunny intervals, mainly dry; drizzle SW; max temp 11C (52F).
SW England, S Wales: Becoming cloudy, a light rain or drizzle in places; drizzle SW; max temp 11C (52F).
N Wales, NW, central N, NE England, Borders, Edinburgh, Dundee, Aberdeen: Bright intervals, becoming cloudy; drizzle SW; max temp 11C (52F).

SE, central S, E, England, East Angles, Midlands, Channel Islands: Sunny intervals, mainly dry; drizzle SW; max temp 11C (52F).
SW England, S Wales: Becoming cloudy, a light rain or drizzle in places; drizzle SW; max temp 11C (52F).
N Wales, NW, central N, NE England, Borders, Edinburgh, Dundee, Aberdeen: Bright intervals, becoming cloudy; drizzle SW; max temp 11C (52F).

SE, central S, E, England, East Angles, Midlands, Channel Islands: Sunny intervals, mainly dry; drizzle SW; max temp 11C (52F).
SW England, S Wales: Becoming cloudy, a light rain or drizzle in places; drizzle SW; max temp 11C (52F).
N Wales, NW, central N, NE England, Borders, Edinburgh, Dundee, Aberdeen: Bright intervals, becoming cloudy; drizzle SW; max temp 11C (52F).



High tides			
Location	AM	PM	PM
London Bridge	7.40	11.40	1.40
Southampton	7.40	11.40	1.40
Cardiff	7.40	11.40	1.40
Belfast	7.40	11.40	1.40
Edinburgh	7.40	11.40	1.40
Glasgow	7.40	11.40	1.40
Newcastle	7.40	11.40	1.40
Sheffield	7.40	11.40	1.40
Manchester	7.40	11.40	1.40
Liverpool	7.40	11.40	1.40
Birmingham	7.40	11.40	1.40
Nottingham	7.40	11.40	1.40
Leeds	7.40	11.40	1.40
Sheff	7.40	11.40	1.40
Cardiff	7.40	11.40	1.40
Belfast	7.40	11.40	1.40
Edinburgh	7.40	11.40	1.40
Glasgow	7.40	11.40	1.40
Newcastle	7.40	11.40	1.40
Sheffield	7.40	11.40	1.40
Manchester	7.40	11.40	1.40
Liverpool	7.40	11.40	1.40
Birmingham	7.40	11.40	1.40
Nottingham	7.40	11.40	1.40
Leeds	7.40	11.40	1.40
Sheff	7.40	11.40	1.40



Around Britain			
Location	Sun	Rain	Wind
London	11.40	11.40	1.40
Southampton	11.40	11.40	1.40
Cardiff	11.40	11.40	1.40
Belfast	11.40	11.40	1.40
Edinburgh	11.40	11.40	1.40
Glasgow	11.40	11.40	1.40
Newcastle	11.40	11.40	1.40
Sheffield	11.40	11.40	1.40
Manchester	11.40	11.40	1.40
Liverpool	11.40	11.40	1.40
Birmingham	11.40	11.40	1.40
Nottingham	11.40	11.40	1.40
Leeds	11.40	11.40	1.40
Sheff	11.40	11.40	1.40
Cardiff	11.40	11.40	1.40
Belfast	11.40	11.40	1.40
Edinburgh	11.40	11.40	1.40
Glasgow	11.40	11.40	1.40
Newcastle	11.40	11.40	1.40
Sheffield	11.40	11.40	1.40
Manchester	11.40	11.40	1.40
Liverpool	11.40	11.40	1.40
Birmingham	11.40	11.40	1.40
Nottingham	11.40	11.40	1.40
Leeds	11.40	11.40	1.40
Sheff	11.40	11.40	1.40

